

Council taking action to tackle £1m fly-tipping cost

TIPS SET TO OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

BY RICHARD GUTTRIDGE

COUNCIL tips will open seven days a week in Bloxwich and Aldridge as part of plans to combat fly-tipping, it has been announced.

Council leader Mike Bird has confirmed the tips will be open all week under changes expected to come in later this year.

He said residents needed to be able to access tips at all times and believes having the facilities available will deter fly-tippers who are costing the council £1 million a year.

The changes come after the Conservative group took control of the authority in May.

Bosses are also considering offering free use of the bulky goods collection service for three months to encourage people to dispose of rubbish responsibly.

The Fryers Road tip in Bloxwich is currently closed on Thursdays and Fridays while the Aldridge site is shut on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Blighted

He said: "It's going to happen but it has to go through the process. I'm looking at having a special cabinet [meeting] to do things like this because the next one is not until September. I think we need to do it sooner rather than later."

"Fly-tipping is costing us about £1 million a year. If somebody turns up on Tuesday with a car full of rubbish and it's closed, what are they going to do?"

"They will think 'Where can I dump this?'. It is one of our statutory duties to allow people to dispose of their waste."

"We have said we are going to do it, and it is being costed as we speak, and we will be doing it as soon as it is practical."

Walsall has been blighted by fly-tipping in recent years, and it is hoped that the changes will ease the problem.

But Councillor Bird said the authority would be taking a tough stance on the issue and cracking down on people who pass rubbish on to unscrupulous collectors.

He said: "We have got to educate the public. People have got to understand they have got a duty of care in how their waste is disposed."

"If it ends up dumped in a country lane we will be coming back to the source, and they will have to pay the fine."

ALL FIRED UP AS SHOW THRILLS CAR LOVERS



Cliff Thompson shows off his 1949 Chevrolet C3100 chopped pick-up truck, during the classic car show at Walsall Arboretum

HUNDREDS of car lovers turned out to see a mouthwatering display of vintage machines at a revamped show.

The 28th annual Walsall Classic Car show saw 500 vehicles - ranging from pre-war motors to hot rods and motorbikes - on display at the town's Arboretum.

Owners mingled with enthusiasts to admire Fords and Ferraris, Jaguars and Jensens, and everything in between at the popular showcase for pre and post-war custom-made and classics, as well as all types of commercial vehicles of yesteryear.

An interactive arena also provided entertainment throughout Sunday's six-hour event, with the decibel duel, a crowd favourite, pulling in one of the biggest audiences.

The show was started and run for 25 years by Walsall collectors Geoff and Linda Price but has now been taken over by Bromsgrove-based family business Gemini Events.

The new owners have introduced challenges to the event, such as the decibel duel which pits cars against each other to find out which has the loudest engine. There were also dozens of trade stands.

Events director at Gemini, Stephen Smith, who was born and raised in Bilston, said the show was one of his favourite events. He said: "It's one of the smaller shows we do but we really enjoy it. We've been running it for the last three years and this year had another record breaking crowd."

"We had 400 cars on show, it was great, seeing as we had competition from the World Cup and the tennis. We had one man who used to live in Walsall but travelled from Bristol with his Doretti, a rare car put together in the 1950s at Aldridge Airport."

COURT

Murder charge after pub worker attack

A MAN has appeared in court charged with murder after an attack outside a Wether-spoon pub.

Police found 31-year-old Matthew Powney when they were called to reports of a fight last Monday outside The Malthouse on New Road, Willenhall, where the victim worked. He died in hospital later that day.

Shaun Addison, aged 27, of Furzebank Way, Willenhall, who is accused of his murder and the wounding of another man, was remanded in custody after a short hearing at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Monday.

He is due to appear next at the same court on September 25.

ROADS

Council agrees to parade funds

COSTS to close the roads for Remembrance Day parades will be fully funded after plans were backed by Walsall Council.

The cabinet has agreed to stump up the £35,000, after previously only contributing 30 per cent. It comes after organisers have been unable to afford the costs of policing 10 events across the town after West Midlands Police withdrew funding in 2016.

TRAGEDY

Woman dies after blaze at flats block

A WOMAN has died following a fire at a flat in Darlaston. The victim, in her 60s and named in floral tributes as Helen, was rescued from the address in Parklands Road by firefighters.

She was said to have suffered critical injuries in the blaze, which started in the early hours. Police are not treating the fire as suspicious.

INSIDE

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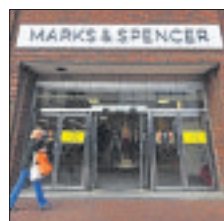
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Council forge 'masterplan' for town



Turbulent times – store closing

A MASTERPLAN to 'redouble' efforts to regenerate a town centre following the expected closure of Marks & Spencer is being drafted by council bosses.

Leader of Walsall Council Mike Bird says the council will develop a Walsall Town Centre Masterplan.

Councillor Bird says it will be produced by before the end of March 2019 and aims to 'secure a brighter future' for the town centre.

The town's Marks & Spencer is preparing to shut its doors on August 11. In a report to the council, Councillor

Bird says his administration 'must look to the future'.

He said: "We can be proud of the many great developments we have seen over the past few years – for example, the regeneration of the Waterfront.

"However, there is work still to do and we need to consider how the town centre might develop further in light of ever changing market conditions.

"We will develop and deliver a masterplan by the end of March 2019 to redouble our efforts to regenerate our town centre.

"The retail sector in particular is undergoing a turbulent time as spending patterns shift and 'online' presents a challenge to the traditional bricks and mortar shopping experience.

"We, like many places, are not immune to those effects. The sad news of Marks and Spencer's impending closure is a stark reminder of the very direct cost of the restructuring occurring across retail. It will be a sad day for the town and for the employees of the store. However, we must look to the future. For every challenge, there is an opportunity."

Crash victim was our 'sunshine', says family

A 21-YEAR-OLD man who died after falling off a motorbike has been described by family as 'the sunshine in our lives'.

Andrew Gary Fellows, of Birchfield Way, Walsall, died on April 20 after he fell from an 800cc Kawasaki motorbike he was test riding.

Mr Fellows was trying the vehicle out on the Yew Tree Estate in Walsall before committing to buying it from his friend – and died after falling from the high-powered vehicle into a wooden post. An inquest heard the former groundworker, described as 'gentle' and 'well-mannered', had reached speeds of up to 76mph in a 30mph zone on Thorncroft Way before crashing.



Andrew Fellows

Homely

Speaking at the hearing, Andrew's aunt, Paula Cartwright, said: "Andrew was gentle, polite and well-mannered. He was the sunshine in our lives. He went to work everyday and he was hard-working. He was a homely boy, happy to be at home. He was always there if you needed him.

"If I needed a lift with my grandson I could phone him up and he would be there. He was just happy go lucky – a lovely lad."

She explained he had been intending on buying the motorbike with money from a tax rebate.

"He had a motorbike from when he was old enough to have one," his aunt said.

"His mom really didn't like him on



Police investigators at the scene of the tragedy in Walsall where the bike collided with a wooden post

motorbikes and had bought him a car for his 21st birthday."

Andrew had bumped into family friend Martin Bugler on the day of his death and asked to try his 800cc Kawasaki motorbike out before he bought it.

Ms Cartwright said: "We hold nothing against Martin at all. Martin allowed him to have a try before you buy."

Giving evidence at the hearing, Detective Constable Karl Davies, of West Midlands Police collisions investigation unit, said: "He [Andrew]

would not have a licence to cover him to ride that class of vehicle. I spoke with Andrew's mother at the scene and she was amazed that he would have been on the motorbike.

"I did a trawl of CCTV. We see Mr Bugler arriving on the motorcycle and waits for eight minutes until Andrew arrives in his Vauxhall Corsa.

"The CCTV shows a friendly scene. Mr Bugler lends the helmet and jacket to Andrew. CCTV shows Andrew does two circuits of the road. It was shown on the last ride through prior to collision Andrew can be seen

travelling at no less than 76mph. What can then be seen is the reaction of the on lookers. They run down and they do everything they can do to sustain life."

Andrew was pronounced dead at 14.24pm on April 20 having suffered a lung collapse, multiple fractures to his ribs and heart failure, coroner Zafar Siddique confirmed.

Mr Siddique, at the Black Country Coroner's Court, said: "The cause of death was fatal injuries. My conclusion is that Andrew Fellows died by way of road traffic collision."

Thug jailed after attack on ex-partner near refuge

A THUG from Walsall who attacked his former partner after tracing her to the women's refuge has been jailed for six years.

Ashley Till lay in wait outside the supposedly secret Black Country address and pounced as she left the building, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The victim saw him running towards her, said Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting, and Till, from Providence Lane, Leamore, grabbed hold of the woman before she could reach safety, punching her eight times to the face and head while holding a metal object in his hand.

The thug, who had been drinking, admitted wounding the victim but denied having wanted to cause her grievous bodily harm in the attack on January 4 – a claim dismissed by a jury who found him guilty of the more serious charge following his trial.

The defendant had been jailed for 16 months after attacking another former partner in November 2012.

Mr Stephen Cadwaladr, defending, said: "This was extremely unpleasant domestic violence committed by a man with an alcohol problem. Now, when sober in the cold light of day, he is utterly ashamed."

Till was also banned from having any contact with the victim.

Hardest places to pass driving test

PARTS of the Black Country are some of the hardest places to pass your driving test in the UK, according to the latest official data.

At test centres in Wolverhampton and Wednesbury just 37.5 per cent passed their practical tests between April 2017 and March 2018 – way under the national average of 46 per cent.

There was a better pass rate in Dudley's Lower Gornal centre, where 48.9pc passed (4,861). And the figures from the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency show that Stafford had a better than average pass rate. Over the year there were 1,393 passes at a rate of 49.6pc.

The toughest place to pass in the country was The Pavilion test centre, in Birmingham, where 30.2 per cent of learner drivers got their licence.

Art goes on show at church mini market

GREAT Wyrley Wesley Methodist Church is holding a mini market and art exhibition on Saturday from 10.30am-1pm.

The Art Group, which meets at the church in Walsall Road, will be exhibiting their work with some on sale.

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Poundworld stores to go with loss of 1,000 jobs

THE Poundworld stores at Merry Hill and Bloxwich are the among 80 stores to close nationwide with the loss of more than 1,000 jobs, administrators revealed.

Around 15 workers at the Merry Hill shop and 13 more at the Bloxwich High Street branch face losing their jobs by the end of this month.

Deloitte, the accountancy firm handling the administration process since Poundworld went bust, says the latest 80 stores will be closed between Friday, July 20, and Sunday July 22. It will leave 230 stores open.

That includes its seven remaining stores in the Black Country and southern Staffordshire, including two shops in Wolverhampton, in the Mander Centre and on Birmingham Road, as well as branches on the Reedswood Retail Park in Walsall, New Square in West Bromwich, the Queen's Retail Park in Stafford, Victoria Shopping Park in Hednesford and at the Three Spires in Lichfield.

The 1,024 redundancies will bring the total jobs toll so far to 1,366, including 100 at the head office and 240 from the first set of store closures earlier this week.

Joint administrator Clare Boardman said: "We would like to thank all the employees for their continued support and commitment during this difficult time. We are keeping staff appraised of developments."

Councillors will switch to Labour

A WALSALL councillor who was rejected as mayor in a controversial move earlier this year is one of two Independent councillors set to switch to the Labour group.

Councillor Paul Bott, whose appointment as mayor was voted down by the Conservatives in May, will officially join the Labour party with his wife, Councillor Chris Bott.

This will give the Labour group 28 seats in the council, with the Conservatives holding 30 seats and the Liberal Democrats two.

Councillor Paul Bott, whose ward is Darlaston South, had been due to take over as mayor in what, up until this year, has been an uncontested appointment before it was appointed to Councillor Marco Longhi.

Tragedy on M6

A MAN died after being involved in a collision with a lorry on the M6. The southbound motorway was closed near Stafford after the incident happened at around 12.30pm on Saturday and was reopened at 4pm.

Last-ditch fight to stop homes plan



Essington Action Group members

AN ACTION group has sent a rallying cry against controversial plans to build more than 200 homes in their village. The Essington Action Group are fighting against Bovis Homes' scheme to build the 230-home estate on green space off Hobnock Road.

Outline plans were given the go-ahead last year, and in May, a full reserved matters planning application was submitted to the district council.

On Thursday evening, more than 70 residents packed out Essington Community Centre for the group's third public meeting - with fears

raised that the village could not cope with the size of the development.

The plans have received more than 100 objections in just six weeks after concerns over increasing traffic demands on roads, school place and loss of green space.

Andy Curtis, who started the Essington Action Group with his wife Sam, said they were initially told proposals were for 65 homes in 2016, but earlier this year outline plans for 230 properties were accepted. "It's going to be a concrete jungle," he said.

"The land just shouldn't be built

on. We're not against development, but where it is and the size and scale of it is just too much. It's opposite a school - which can't accommodate many more children because its already over-subscribed - and when you're looking at potentially another 400 cars, Hobnock Road is going to be chaos. There's a big draining problem in the village which can only get worse. Essington is a rural village, it's beautiful and we want to keep it like that. We will fight it to the death."

Bovis Homes was contacted for a comment.

Knife crime: 55 cases in region every week

FIFTY-FIVE knife crimes take place in the West Midlands every week - almost one every three hours.

The region's police force has revealed there were 1,221 incidents involving blades in the first five months of this year.

The figures for knife crime cover physical attacks, sexual assaults and rape, robbery and threats to kill.

They include eight fatal knife attacks including:

Teenager Keelan Wilson, who was stabbed to death in Wolverhampton in May.

Eleven-year-old Jasmine Forrester, who died after being stabbed in the same city in February.

Eight-year-old Mylee Billingham, who died from a knife wound in Brownhills in January.

Complex

West Midlands Police says it has stepped up efforts to tackle knife crime, but Chief Superintendent Mike O'Hara said the 'complex problem' cannot be solved by police enforcement alone.

He said: "Many tragic knife crimes are entirely preventable and are often the cause of young people making the wrong decision.

"My view is that it is our collective responsibility to help young people make the right decision - the decision not to carry a knife. It is not glamorous, it is not necessary for your own protection and there is a significant chance your knife could be used against you.

"That's why we are working to deter young people from carrying knives with local councils, Youth Offending Services, local charities and also through our Precious Lives project working with schools.

"But this initiative is not enough on its own. We need parents, community leaders, schools and young people themselves to pass the message that it is never ok to carry or use a knife."

The force is targeting young men aged between 15 and 19 who carry knives. Test purchases on shops suspected of selling knives to underage people are also being carried out.

More grass fires amid heatwave



Crews at the scene. Picture: John Kennett/@WMFS_PICS

FIREFIGHTERS across the Black Country tackled grass fires at two spots in the region.

Four crews were called to a huge grassland fire in St Anne's Road Willenhall where an area of grass was ablaze last Wednesday.

Water jets and beaters were used to extinguish the blaze, which

started before 5.30pm and spread to 100 metres by 40 metres in size.

Crews from Falling's Park, Walsall, Bilston and West Bromwich Fire Station were in attendance.

Meanwhile, in Tipton, firefighters attended a similar incident on Batmans Hill, off Turton Road.

The blaze unfolded at about

7pm and two pumps from Haden Cross and Dudley Fire Stations were called.

Both blazes had been extinguished by 8pm.

The fire service has been running its Play It Cool! campaign to stop people lighting avoidable fires in the recent hot weather.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Health 'Good' rating welcome

MEDICAL chiefs at NHS Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group have said they 'welcome' the news of their new rating of Good for this year.

The CCG was previously rated as Inadequate in 2015/16 and put in special measures by NHS England. It then progressed to Requires Improvement in 2016/17. However, its hard work to improve has since been recognised.

Paul Maubach, accountable officer for NHS Walsall CCG said: "Over these last two years our team has worked incredibly hard to rectify this position. We've had to significantly reorganise how we do things."

Teenager faces murder bid charge

A TEENAGER has been charged with attempted murder after a claw-hammer attack that left a 17-year-old in a critical condition.

Two 17-year-olds handed themselves in and were arrested following the incident in Wolverhampton. One has been charged with attempted murder and was due to appear before Walsall magistrates this week. The other has been released on bail.

The victim remained in a critical condition in hospital after he suffered head injuries in the attack in the Bilston Street underpass.

Region sees the highest rent rises

THE West Midlands saw the biggest rise in home rents in the country between May and June.

It was up 1.6 per cent to an average £689 and was up by 4.1 per cent or £27 on the same time last year, according to the HomeLet Rental Index.

The average rent in the UK is now £924 - up by 1.8 per cent on the year. When London is excluded, the average rent in the UK is now £767 - up by 1.3 per cent in 12 months.

While the average rental prices have risen during the second quarter of 2018, the demand remains high.

Former care home has new owners

A FORMER care home on the edge of Cannock Chase has new owners. Planning permission was recently obtained to demolish and rebuild the Sister Dora home at Milford.

Specialist business property adviser Christie & Co has completed on the sale of the building, originally built as a military hospital in the 1880s and named after one of its nurses, known locally as Walsall's answer to Florence Nightingale.

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Steam goes off the rails at SVR

SEVERN Valley Railway is to temporarily only run its heritage diesel locomotives to reduce the risk of fire in the on-going hot and dry weather.

The Railway has taken the precaution following a number of small fires which broke out along the line.

To reduce the risk of further fires and the added pressure on the fire service, the SVR's heritage diesel locomotives will be replacing their steam counterparts for journeys. The measures will due to be reviewed yesterday, Wednesday, and reviews will continue on a day-to-day basis. Nick Ralls, the SVR's general manager, said: "This really is an exceptional occurrence."

Morrisons offer to cut plastic use

SUPERMARKET chain Morrisons is trialling vending machines for the return of single-use plastic bottles to reduce their environmental impact.

The two reverse vending machines will be installed at stores in Skipton, North Yorkshire, and Lindsayfield, Scotland, for six months and will allow customers to deposit bottles in return for points coupons. The machines accept all plastic bottles that have a barcode and Morrisons own-brand bottles that may not have one.

Customers can return a maximum of 20 bottles a day and receive 100 Morrisons More points in the form of a coupon which can be spent in store.

City pub is all set for displays

A BIRMINGHAM city centre pub is holding an art exhibition. The Core Collective is running in The Gunmakers Arms in Bath Street and Two Towers Brewery from August 5.

It will feature sculptures, textile art, photographs, digital art, mixed media pieces and portraits. The brewery is also presenting an event celebrating the 100 years of the suffragettes and Nicola Gauld from Community Engagement Outreach will be telling their story on August 12 from 4pm.

Open day on way at pet hospital

ANIMAL lovers and budding vets are being invited to a fun-filled open day at a Black Country pet hospital.

The Oldbury PDSA Pet Hospital will throw open its doors on Wednesday, July 25, between 10am and 2pm.

Visitors will have the chance to go behind the scenes of the busy hospital in St Matthews Road, to see where life-saving pet operations are carried out. An annual total of £1.5 million is needed to keep the hospital going.

Brave teenager Josh rolls up in style



Josh Cartwright and Ethan Wilkes

A BRAVE teenager and aspiring paramedic who is battling cancer showed up to his prom in style in a First Responders ambulance.

Josh Cartwright, aged 16, of Great Wyrley, was diagnosed with thyroid cancer in November and underwent surgery and radiotherapy treatment earlier this year which had complications. Despite this, he has taken his GCSEs and been on a

school trip plus he has fulfilled his dream to go to prom in an ambulance thanks to the generosity of the Burntwood and Cannock Chase Community First Responders.

Upon arrival, the group co-ordinator, Dan Walsh, turned on the sirens to make an entrance for the Great Wyrley High School student.

His mother Helen Cartwright, aged 44, said: "Josh wants to work

for the NHS and wants to be a paramedic. He has done voluntary work shifts with West Midlands Ambulance Service and when he was diagnosed they invited him on a special visit to the air ambulance base in Tatenhill.

"They then got in touch with the Community First Responders (CFR) who were more than happy to help out and jumped on board."

Plenty of pomp with our proud prom-goers

By Pippa Armstrong

STUDENTS have been showing off their stunning ball gowns and sharp suits as they hit the dance floor to celebrate the start of summer.

It's that time of year again when students turn on the glitz for a special night out to mark the end of the school or college year.

And the Chronicle wants to see pictures of you getting dressed up to the nines or arriving in style at your venue.

More unusual snaps are also welcome, from matching prom dresses to wacky transport – we would love to see your quirky ideas sent in.

It's not just proud parents and happy students who can get involved, teachers are also welcome to submit pictures of their pupils.

And it seems no expense has been spared in ensuring pupils have made entrances worthy of a red carpet arrival at a movie premiere.

Youngsters from Ounsdale High School in Wombourne were treated to a pre-prom party in the village before they took off in a limousine for more celebrations at the Village Hotel in Dudley.

Earls High School in Halesowen were treated to a top-notch night at the Copthorne Hotel at Merry Hill.

Meanwhile, Wolverhampton Girls High School pupils danced the night away at the Mount Hotel in Tettenhall and youngsters at Pedmore Technology College went in-house for their celebrations, with an event held in the school hall.

Finally, lucky students at the Ace Academy in Tipton enjoyed their night at West Bromwich Albion's ground.

Please email your photographs to sue.attwater@expressandstar.co.uk with your name, email, location and a short description of the picture.



Ounsdale High School's pre-prom garden party which took place in Wombourne



Hollie White and Adam Smith – Earls High, Halesowen



Ace Academy – Morgan Roper, Charlie Small, Elle Ford, Tyler Wardley, Macy Boddy, Callum Davis



W'ton Girls High, Emily Pywell



Bethany Edwards, Gemma Smith, Jessica Gaymer – Pedmore Tech

Suicide bid ex-dancer loses fight to cut term

AN ex-pole dancer who encouraged a Walsall postman to commit suicide has failed to get her jail term cut by top judges.

Natasha Gordon, aged 44, got a four-year jail term at Leicester Crown Court on January 18.

She was convicted of encouraging the suicide of 31-year-old Matthew Birkinshaw, Lord Justice Treacy told London's Appeal Court last Friday.

Mr Birkinshaw posted a message on an online suicide forum on December 16, 2015 that he intended to take his own life the following day.

He said he was looking for a partner to enter into a 'suicide pact' with him and Gordon contacted him.

She said that she was 'prepared to commit suicide with him'. He drove from the West Midlands to her Peterborough home, texting on the way that he was writing the last of his suicide notes. Gordon replied that she was also writing a suicide note to her partner, but no such letter was found.

Mr Birkinshaw picked up Gordon and drove to Rutland Water, said the judge. Gordon's partner contacted police after she sent him a text saying she was going to kill herself.

She was found in a hotel near Rutland Water and told police she had 'changed her mind' and 'did not want to commit suicide'.

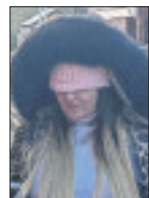
Poisoning

It was not until after officers had taken her home that she told them she had planned to kill herself with Mr Birkinshaw and she believed he had killed himself. His body was discovered in his car not far from the hotel. He had died from carbon monoxide poisoning.

Ali Naseem Bajwa QC, for Gordon, argued her jail term was far too tough and should be reduced.

The Crown Court judge was 'wrong' to find it was not a 'genuine suicide pact', claimed the QC.

But Timothy Cray, for the Crown Prosecution Service, said: "It was open to the judge to find, and she did find, that Gordon did not intend to see the act through". "It cannot be said the judge's conclusion was unreasonable," said Lord Justice Treacy. "We are not persuaded that she was not entitled to conclude as she did," added the judge, who was sitting with two others. "We do not think there is a tenable argument that the sentence imposed in this case after trial was arguably manifestly excessive."



Natasha Gordon

The great big THANK YOU! Awards 2018

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New health centre plans 'meet needs of patients'

PLANS to redevelop the site of a former residential care home in Burntwood into a new health centre for local families have moved a step closer.

The proposals involve breathing new life into the site of the former Greenwood House. Staffordshire County Council own the site, which is earmarked for use by the Darwin Practice as a health centre. The council also intends to seek a tenant to occupy the adjoining pharmacy.

Councillor Alan White, deputy leader and cabinet member for health, care and wellbeing, said: "Supporting independence at all ages and providing a good quality of life are all key priorities for the county council.

"This proposal, utilising a previously dormant plot of land to provide additional capacity for the local GP practice, means people in Burntwood can look forward to a new, state-of-the-art accessible practice that meets the needs of local people."

Councillor Mark Deaville, cabinet member for commercial, said the proposals were subject to planning approval and funding being in place, with the aim of leasing the site for 60 years.

The plans were being discussed at a county council cabinet meeting yesterday (Wednesday). The council says more detailed plans 'will be shared with the local community as part of the planning process'.

New single out for Sophielou

WOLVERHAMPTON musician Sophielou is back with a new single.

The former unsigned star in The Ticket has been busy putting her latest material together and recently released All I Need. "People have responded really well to it," she said.

"Spotify have amazingly added it to their R&B UK Playlist, which has caused a rise in my listeners and streams.

"I've had a booking for a big festival in Norwich this summer, I had my headline show last night at The Prince Albert and I've been booked for Beatsabab Presents at the Newhampton Arts Centre on September 13."

She has also run her own clothing line since November 2016 - Out With The Old (OWTO).

Comic in band link

A CHANCE meeting in a pub prompted comedy songsmith Jonny Cole to embark on a new phase of his career.

Jonny has linked up with a band, The Flat Pint of Mild. They perform at the Robin 2 in Bilston tonight.

Contest to find picture perfect children

DO you have the cutest child? Does your little one look adorable in photographs? Then your child could be crowned a winner in the Baby and Toddler of the Year contest, run by our sister publication The Express & Star.

Entry is free and open to parents/guardians within the E&S circulation area with a child aged five or under.

Our official photographer will be at Intu Merry Hill between July 23 and 29 and at

the Mander Centre in Wolverhampton between July 30 and August 4. All pictures will be published in an E&S supplement and they will appear on the paper's website.

Parents will be able to bring along their children along to be photographed and will then be invited back to choose the perfect picture for the supplement. If they cannot choose, one will be selected for them.

The children will be split into four age categories; 0-9



months, 10-18 months, 19-35 months and 3-5 years. Readers will be invited to vote for their favourite. There will be a winner in all brackets, with

a £500 for prize for each category and extra £250 for the overall winner. To vote, simply choose your favourite from all the entries.

The photographs will also be featured in the E&S on Wednesday, September 12.

Once you've chosen, cut out the special vote tokens printed each day until October 13. The deadline for returning tokens is October 19.

Along with your vote tokens, complete a Voting To-

kens Return Form, either downloaded and printed from the website or using the form available in the E&S.

Be sure to include the child's name, age category and unique voting code number.

Readers may vote as many times as they like using the vote tokens, which can be sent in batches or all together in one envelope after all tokens have appeared. Voting Tokens Return Forms MUST be sent each time tokens are sent in.

Consistency called for on issuing taxi licences

COUNCIL bosses want to establish a 'common set of standards' for issuing taxi licences across the West Midlands - which would also apply to rebel local authority Wolverhampton.

The public are being put in 'danger' by current legislation which allows private hire operators to obtain a licence in one area and work in another, said Birmingham City Council leader Councillor Ian Ward.

He said he had held a meeting between Labour council leaders in the West Midlands with a view to establishing consistency for issuing licences.

It is understood the talks have also included bosses at Wolverhampton Council which has been widely criticised, by Birmingham taxi drivers in particular, for its licensing process.

It is quicker and cheaper to obtain a licence in Wolverhampton, while there is dispute as to whether their examination is easier and less demanding.

Councillors and officials at Birmingham have not publicly pointed the finger at Wolverhampton.

But tellingly the authority was omitted when Councillor Barbara Dring, chairman of licensing and public protection (BCC), wrote to the Minister for Transport about the issue in October on behalf of Birmingham, Coventry, Sandwell, Dudley and Walsall councils.

The problem has arisen due to the 2015 De-regulation Act which allows licensed private hire drivers to operate anywhere in England and Wales.

Councillor Ward described being licensed in one authority and being able to work in another as 'a mess that was putting the public at risk'.

He said: "I held a meeting with the Labour met leaders two weeks ago, to discuss how taxis are licensed across the West Midlands.

"We will now have a subsequent meeting where we will attempt to agree a common set of standards that should apply across the West Midlands."

Rock hard run for Tony in 100k bid



Ready to run - Tony Cooper, with Rev John Deakin, at Holy Trinity Church, in Short Heath, Willenhall

A MAN from Willenhall is set to run 100km to raise money to repair his local church.

Tony Cooper, aged 51, will aim to complete the Race to the Stones 'ultra marathon' from the Children to North Wessex Downs on July 14 for Holy Trinity Church, Short Heath, Willenhall.

The money raised will be used to repair stonework damage caused by water ingress. The damage is estimated to cost £65,000.

Mr Cooper said: "They do a fantastic amount of work for the local

community and I've done a couple of distance runs but this is really close to home."

Mr Cooper, a parishioner of the church, has been training for the last six months to prepare for the run. He said: "I've dropped two stone in weight and forgotten what beer tastes like."

"A good friend of mine messaged me last Saturday to say 'want to go to Moscow on Wednesday for the semi-finals, my treat', but the return flight was not going to land until 9pm on Friday and

I needed to be in High Wycombe and ready to go for 6am on Saturday morning."

"It wasn't a direct flight and I have got a lot of people relying on me and it would've been very embarrassing to say 'I'm still in Moscow'. The 51 year-old is hoping to complete the 5,000 year old path in a day, finishing around midnight."

You can donate to Tony Cooper's campaign by visiting <http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/holytrinity>

Train hit by bird is forced to stop

PASSENGERS faced delays after a train was damaged when a bird hit it.

The train broke down between Walsall and Rugeley Trent Valley on Friday morning, leading to delays on the line. West Midlands Railway said a 'bird strike' damaged a pipe on the train, leaving it unable to run.

Replacement buses were put on for affected passengers. The line reopened around 1pm but disruption continued for another hour and a half.

The rail firm tweeted: "The Chase Line has reopened following following the earlier train fault, which was in fact caused by a bird strike that dislodged a pipe causing a loss of air."

House prices set to rise by 4.8pc

HOUSE prices in the West Midlands are predicted to grow by 4.8 per cent this year.

The latest UK Economic Outlook from accountants PricewaterhouseCoopers projects the region's price growth will be 1.8 per cent above the UK average.

The average West Midlands house price is estimated to rise from £185,000 in 2017 to around £225,000 by 2022. It predicts annual UK house price growth is likely to stay around three per cent until 2025 seeing the average house rise to around £285,000.

Why pharmacist is perfect tonic

A PHARMACY manager has been handed a top award after going 'Above and Beyond' to treat two of his patients.

Haroon Mahmood, pharmacy manager at Well Darlaston Medical Centre won at the C+D Awards 2018. The award was created for 2018 and celebrates the individual stories of pharmacists and pharmacy staff going out of their way for their patients.

Tracy Barton, retail stores director at Well Pharmacy, said: "Harry always puts the health and wellbeing of his customers first."

Plans for more and faster trains derailed

PLANS to bring more trains and faster journeys have been delayed by five months. West Midlands Trains, which last year took over Shropshire services previously operated by London Midland, had pledged to introduce a raft of improvements in December.

But the chaos caused by the launch of the summer timetable in the north has led to the Rail Delivery Group, which oversees UK rail services, delaying the changes until May 2019..

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews



Not sold on market landmark entrance

THE finishing touches are being put to Wolverhampton's £5 million market, with the piece de resistance being a new landmark entrance. And it is certainly that. Visitors to the new showpiece, on the site of the old Rackhams store in Snow Hill, will be greeted with a pile of shabby-looking shipping containers with City of Wolverhampton Market written across one of them. Very Shoreditch.

Personally speaking, I think they've missed a trick. Why not put in a pile of partially dissembled Ford Cortinas, a crane with a giant magnet, and a tattooed skinhead in a caravan holding a pit-bull on a string? Still, I suppose £5 million doesn't go that far these days.

The public response has been somewhat lukewarm, in that everybody hates it. Which, of course, will be music to the ears of the "creatives". "Provoking debate" and "providing an interesting talking point," will no doubt be their interpretation. Then again, The Blitz got people talking, but you wouldn't say it was entirely good for London, would you?

Do they never learn? It was the same in the early 1990s, when Wolverhampton Council had the bright idea of blocking the roads with huge flower tubs. A few months later they were removed at great expense following uproar from the public.

Then there was the hideous 'artwork' along both the Black Country Route and the Dudley Southern Bypass. I remember driving past the Cinder Bank roundabout in Dudley one morning when these random bits of orange metal suddenly appeared. I thought a lorry had shed its load. Still, credit where it's due, at least the new market is true to the history of the site. It was an eyesore before the investment, and it's an eyesore now.

TEACHER Helen Pattison was among the protesters demonstrating against Donald Trump's visit to the UK. Good for her you might think. Everyone has the right to protest. Except that Miss Pattison not only staged a classroom walkout to take part but also told a newspaper she was taking pupils along with her too.

"We have not just a right to protest, but a duty," she said. Well, no actually. Your duty is to teach pupils skills that will get them a job when they leave school. And to be impartial, leaving your political views at home, no matter how strongly you feel.

The Department for Education recently hit out at parents who took their children on term-time holidays, saying every day at school was valuable. Maybe they should have a word with Miss Pattison.

Time, perhaps, to dig out the long sleeves and trousers



Trump's arrival sparked comment from every conceivable, ill-educated source



Emotional Olivia Colman, who kicked off another series of Who Do You Think You Are?



Farewell to Poldark's evil vicar Osbourne Whitworth, played by Christian Brassington

Trump's visit to a well-red populace

OH, isn't it fun, sneering at the ill-educated lower orders? From the Guardian website comes this lofty put-down: "After all this hot weather Trump is going to feel at home. Rednecks everywhere." Brilliant, darling – except that's not how you spell "everywhere."

AS the NHS prepares to ration 17 procedures, a reader suggests the ultimate aim is to ignore anyone who can be described as 'poorly'. Who knows? On this 70th birthday of our health service, all that seems to matter is that the NHS is 'free at the point of delivery'. Does anyone who spouts this well-worn and hugely misleading phrase ever visit a dentist or optician?

HAD that Barbour moment yet? It's the one, deep into a sweltering heatwave, when you open a wardrobe full of waxed jackets, fleeces and scarves and cannot imagine why you would ever wear such things again. Come February you may experience the exact opposite as you stumble upon your skimpy-shorts drawer.

WELCOME back to Who Do You Think You Are (BBC1), a show in which celebrities compete to see how quickly they can burst into tears over something that happened hundreds of years ago to a distant relative they hadn't heard of until that moment. In the first show of the new series, Olivia Colman got off to a fine start by blubbing, after just 10 minutes, about her great-great-grandmother being sent from India to England at the age of three in 1812.

THIS is a delicate matter. As the height of

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



the male population increases (from 5ft 8ins to 5ft 10ins in the past 50 years), is the height of public conveniences also rising? I fear an epidemic of RHU may be upon us. Your tales of Ridiculously High Urinals will be treated in strict confidence, unless they are amusing.

BEFORE long, a certain amount of wet stuff will presumably fall from the heavens and end England's drought. Two things about rain always take us by surprise. First, a few hours before the deluge, your house fills with big, black hairy spiders looking for shelter. Secondly, as water reacts with rubber and oil, the roads turn into ice-rinks. Bad times for arachnophobes, great opportunities for insurance firms to bump up premiums. Drive slowly and carry a big slipper.

IT never occurred to me that in Poldark's time, when ye streets were paved with manure and folk washed once every decade or so, that foot fetishism would be quite as popular as the ill-fated Reverend Osbourne Whitworth (Christian Brassington) suggests. Tic Tac, vicar?

"WE won't see anything like this again," declared one proud visitor in the Mall as the RAF's 100th anniversary flypast roared overhead. I wonder how many aircraft had to be cannibal-

ised by RAF technicians to put all those 103 planes in the air at the same time. It took me back to the First Gulf War in 1990 when I was at the RAF base in Bahrain as the Tornados were being prepared for battle. In the heart of the plane is an access shaft where techies squeeze in to get at various black boxes and wiggles. It was a job reserved for the smallest, thinnest bloke in the team and you couldn't help thinking of Victorian children being sent up chimneys.

I DO get a wee bit worried by those who take a malicious glee in telling us that it is impossible to leave the EU. Not even the British Empire hung on to its possessions so grimly. If we really are in an empire from which there is no escape it is, by definition, an evil empire.

I HAVE just been on another train. That makes three in eight years. This week's ride took me on the train from Coventry to Leamington Spa which now, after a gap of 53 years, again stops at Kenilworth. In ye olden days I was a trainee reporter on the Kenilworth Weekly News. In the silly season, we could always fill half a page with speculation about when the old station would be reopened. As the old saying goes, everything comes to he who waits (except the things that don't).

LEAMINGTON, like most big towns and cities has seen huge celebrations for the World Cup but not a drop of rain to wash away the results. I have never seen so much dried vomit spoiling the pavements. As that fine old football anthem goes: Three Lagers on My Shoes.

TALKING POINT



Fuelling my fears after filling up on hols

THE feeling is one of panic, tinged with confusion and dread.

After filling up with petrol on holiday, I walk towards the garage shop to pay, reach for my wallet, and find my pocket is empty. I go inside and explain my predicament.

The assistant is next to useless and seeks advice on what to do, muttering "This gentleman has a problem with petrol or something". I'll say it's a problem! I'm stranded in a strange place, and never having been in this situation before, have no idea what to do. It's not as if I can put the petrol back in the pump, is it?

The second assistant is more switched-on and gets straight to the point: "I can't let you drive off." Fair enough, but then I'm left in no doubt as to how serious this is. "Have you no means of paying at all?" "Nothing."

"Bank card? Someone who can phone through with the payment? Contactless account on your phone?"

By now I'm trembling, my mouth is dry and I'm talking gobbledegook. After weighing up the options, I place said phone on the counter and offer to leave it as security. That suggestion triggers a solution. I'm asked for my name, address, make and model of vehicle, registration number and made to sign a print-out.

It's only when I get back to the car that I gather my thoughts sufficiently to remember there's always a bag of change in the glove box for parking, and so I start counting out coin after coin. It soon becomes obvious there isn't enough to pay for the petrol but then I put my hand back in my pocket and find just enough change to make up the total cost.

With tail between my legs, I slope back into the shop. "Guess what?" "You've found your wallet?"

"No, but I've scraped together enough change to pay."

And so we count out all those coins again, and with phone back in my possession, I continue on my way.

Mind you, I'm glad I left it till later to read the small print on the "No means to pay at Pump 2" receipt, which said I had agreed to "make payment within 24 hours" and "advised" my details may be passed to a debt collecting agency if I did not comply with the agreement I signed. Talk about putting a dent in your day!

Nearly forgot: I retraced my steps and got my wallet back within an hour. I'd left it in a shop I'd been to before filling up.

Let this be a warning. Check you have the wherewithal before taking that nozzle out of the pump. Happy motoring!

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Utterly ridiculous response to visit

OUTRAGE after President Donald Trump tweeted out a series of anti-Muslim videos from the Twitter account of a far-right British citizen, London decided to institute a ban ... against the American president.

Amid a debate in Britain over whether Trump's invitation to visit the country should be rescinded after his incendiary tweets, officials in London adopted a motion that bars Trump from setting foot in the borough if the visit went ahead.

This is a 'peaceful and welcoming

place that celebrates difference and diversity, but in the case of President Trump, we are willing to make an exception', Denise Hyland, Greenwich's top official, said.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan, the first Muslim to run the city, said last month that Trump's visit to the UK should be cancelled due to his retweets of videos showing Muslims committing acts of violence.

Khan said Trump has promoted a 'vile, extremist group' and an official visit by him to Britain 'would not be

welcomed'. Utterly and completely ridiculous!

I'm for staying at home and sitting this one out!

British Prime Minister Theresa May also condemned Trump for retweeting the videos, but her office said that it would not take back the invitation.

Trump responded to May by pointing out that 'radical Islamic terror' poses a far greater danger to Britons than he does.

ALAN DAVIS
Darlaston

Thank you from us on frontline

I SUSPECT it's hard to love a frontline ambulance person. We get up early and don't have time to drink coffee over the newspaper. We come home late and are too tired to cook. We work extra hours because there are sick people who need us.

We don't get too excited over your minor 'boo-boos', we've seen far worse. We don't want to talk when we come home. We have talked all day. We don't want to move when we come home. We have moved all day.

It may seem we have left all our caring, our heart, and our love at work, then come home to you empty.

We probably have. But we don't tell you that many times at work we are scared. Scared we are missing something. Scared we will let our patient down. I would like to thank those of you out there who love us, and let us do this work, this calling, this life in emergency care.

FROM AN AMBULANCE
PERSON

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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Imports will damage our food producers

I CONSTANTLY struggle to find any logic in Brexiters' letters and Alan Davis's letter is a prime example.

I thought that the idea of Brexit was for us to sell more abroad.

Yet Alan is looking forward to us importing more food, which will damage our home-based food producers who are already in trouble because EU workers no longer want to work here.

As for our producers being able to produce more, we can't harvest what we grow now.

Brexit will open the floodgates for imported cane sugar, damaging our beet sugar industry and the nation's health.

ROGER WATTS
Walsall

Carrington was so very courteous

I WAS sad to hear of the death at 99 years of the former Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington. I met him twice during the 1990s, once with a friend in 1991 and later with my wife.

My late gran told me many years ago that a family member called Gordon was his batman in the Army during the Second World War. Gordon lived for many years on the Birmingham Road in Walsall.

I met Lord Carrington when I lived in Aylesbury, he lived at The Manor House in Bledlow and his wife had orchestrated an internationally renowned Japanese garden.

When my wife and I met Lord Carrington on a walk round Bledlow in the mid-1990s he was very courteous, respectful and interested in what we had to say, I told him about Gordon and he remembered him with fondness.

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Geoff's retirement package is delivered

A COURIER firm has said a fond farewell to a much-loved driver on his retirement, after delivering for nearly a half a century.

Sixty-five-year-old Geoff Elson started his career as a Walsall milkman aged just 17, before moving on to become a delivery driver for a number of local companies.

He took up his position with e.d.s. Couriers, based in Cannock, in the early 2000s, and has become a familiar face, both in the depot and with his regular customers who looked forward to the smiling face and witty banter that was always delivered alongside their parcels.

Matt Evans, current managing director at e.d.s., said: "Geoff is a real character and has been a fantastic ambassador for our company."

"He took a great deal of pride in his work and always went the extra mile in making sure he delivered his parcels on time and in perfect condition."

Materials

Throughout his years on the road Geoff has contributed to Walsall town's growth, delivering materials for the building of the new Walsall College and Asda, and helping stock Tesco in preparation for its opening.

He was also well-known at the Manor Hospital, one of his regular drop-offs, which he has seen through every stage of its rebuild.

"During my time as a driver I have seen lots of changes in my local delivery area of Walsall," said Geoff.

"It's not just about driving, I got to engage with and get to know a lot of people."

"I always tried my best to provide a good service to customers, with a



Matt Evans, Managing Director at e.d.s. Couriers with Geoff Elson

regular schedule and consistency with delivery and collections. If you can't do this as a driver, you're in the wrong job."

"I've loved the job, and particularly being a part of e.d.s., which has grown from a very little to a very big company in the time I've been there. So has APC Overnight, who they work in partnership with. I would describe

APC Overnight as one of the leading companies on the market, everyone I speak to is aware of who APC are."

Matt added: "It's true when we say all employees at e.d.s couriers become our extended family - and we're proud to say we have many members of staff who have been part of our family for a long time. We hope that says a lot about us as an employer."

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Field blaze was an accident, say chiefs



Tackling the grass fire at land off Bentley Mill Way which is believed to have started accidentally

FIREFIGHTERS tackled a grass blaze that stretched more than 43,000sq ft.

Eight firefighters were sent to Bentley Mill Way in Walsall to extinguish the fire, which is thought to have been started accidentally.

A West Midlands Fire Service spokesman said: "We got a 999 call at 2.44pm to Bentley Mill Way in Bentley. We sent two crews from Willenhall and Wolverhampton."

"A patch of field that was 80m (262ft) by 50m (164ft) was well alight."

"One hose reel jet and two main water jets were used to put the fire out."

"We were called at 2.44pm on Wednesday and got the stop message at 4.40pm."

"We got a supply of water from the local canal. We believe it was started accidentally so is not believed to be suspicious."

Praise for 'difficult' prison in turnaround

HMP Oakwood must not have its hard work undone by the Government pushing increasing numbers of prisoners through its gates, the Prison Reform Trust has warned.

The prison, located near Featherstone, is one of the largest in the country, holding more than 2,000 prisoners and last week was praised for its 'courageous leadership' and 'outstanding management'.

But the Prison Reform Trust has warned this could all be thrown into jeopardy if the number of inmates gets any higher.

Peter Dawson, director of the trust, said: "There is much to learn from this encouraging report."

"The fly in the ointment is that under pressure of a constant increase in the length of prison sentences, the Government is choosing to put hundreds more men into Oakwood than it is designed to hold, putting at risk all the good things that this report describes."

More than 60 per cent of Oakwood's prisoners are serving sentences of four years or more. The Category C prison opened in 2012, and shortly afterwards a

By Megan Archer

2013 inspection by the HM Inspectorate of Prisons concluded that there was 'a lot to do before Oakwood is operating anywhere near effectively'.

In last week's report, however, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons Peter Clarke described Oakwood as an 'impressive institution'. He credited the 'empowerment of prisoners' through peer support as 'contributing greatly to a culture of decency and respect'.

He also praised the director of the jail John McLaughlin for his 'consistent, capable and courageous leadership' of Oakwood, which Mr Clarke described as 'not an easy prison to run'.

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Climbers getting Bull-ish about Everest challenge

FOUR men are set to take on one giant mountain with the backing of a Wolves legend.

The Black Country and Staffordshire boys conquered Kilimanjaro two years ago – and now with the support of Steve Bull have set their sights on scaling heights once more.

In name of charity the power quartet will be pulling on their gear again and scaling 17,600 feet above sea level to make it to the world famous Everest Base Camp.

Neil Taylor, 48, Suresh Bawa, 52, Arran Bawa, 21, and Tom Hatton, 21, will be tackling 11 days of walking in efforts to raise £30,000 for Birmingham Children's Hospital and Promise Dreams.

Excited

Birmingham Children's Hospital ambassador Neil Taylor, 48, from Pattingham, said: "It is the first time I have done Everest."

"I have done a lot of fundraising for Birmingham Children's Hospital because my daughter had five operations there."

"Following Kilimanjaro we are continuing with the mountains. You have just got to get your cardiovascular training in and core strength up."

"When you go up to 8,000 feet it starts to play tricks on your body. Obviously it is always the unknown. I am excited about it all."

"We go out running most



Arran Bawa, Tom Hatton, Neil Taylor and Suresh Bawa, get set for their charity trek to Mount Everest base camp to raise money for Promise Dreams, with patron Steve Bull wishing them well

weeks and still keep the cycling up. We go up The Wrekin once a week and once a month we will go to Snowdon."

The group will head off in October this year to tackle the trek across the tough and demanding terrain.

Meeting the gang of four to wish them well before their jour-

ney was Wolves and England in legend Steve Bull – the very first patron of Promise Dreams.

Suresh Bawa, 52, Wolverhampton, Promise Dreams founding trustee, said: "Bully was my first patron. He has been there from day one. Steve has been fantastic."

The gang plan to take an eight-

seater plane from Kathmandu in Nepal to Lukla airport before starting their trek.

Suresh, added: "Please support us – £5 or £10 or £15. Every penny goes towards putting a smile on the children's faces."

You can donate to the cause at virginmoneygiving.co.uk/fourmenandmountain1

Hub unveils courses as agreement is signed

A FULL list of courses being offered at the new Cannock Chase Skills and Innovation Hub has been unveiled.

The first students will start in September and eventually be able to access further, and in some cases higher, education in seven course areas and gain apprenticeship opportunities.

It comes following the announcement this summer that the Cannock campus of South Staffordshire College would be reopening.

New signage is now in place on the site, and discussions are taking place to create an Engineering Academy within the Hub with funding of £500,000 available from Cannock Chase Council.

There are also plans for a new retail academy provided by Walsall College which will link to the McArthurGlen designer outlet centre at Mill Green.

Last week the district council and the college signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting out the principles behind establishing the new hub.

It also gives details of how the partnership between the council and the college will plan for the success of the Hub over the coming years.

The full list of courses being offered 'over the next few years' is: Engineering/Advanced Manufacturing; Electrical Installation and Electrical Engineering; Energy; Construction; Digital; Health and Social Care and Early Years; Mathematics and English for employability.

Councillor George Adamson, leader of the council, said: "We are pleased that further education opportunities will soon be available again locally."

"The partnership is also about finding new ways of working with schools in Cannock Chase and ensuring there can be genuine progression into work or to gain higher level qualifications."

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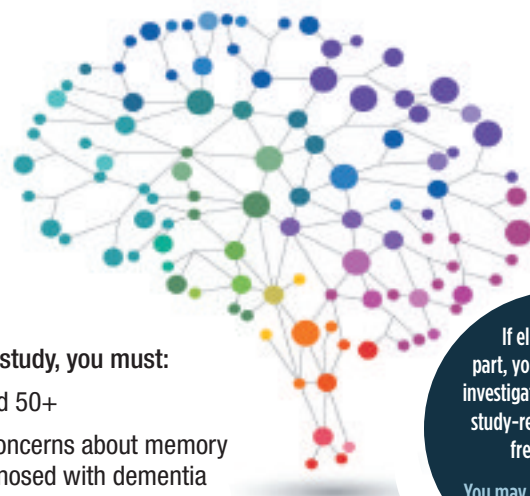


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Cars destroyed in arson attack at repair centre

CARS were destroyed in an arson attack at a vehicle repair centre in Darlaston.

Charred cars and blackened walls were all that remained at the premises, after 25 firefighters from West Midlands Fire finally extinguished the fire after more than two hours.

They were called to the scene in Wolverhampton Street, at around 1.45am on Friday, to a fire involving a car which spread to the vehicle repair shop.

The personnel attending the fire was scaled down from five to three crews by around 2.25am and it was put out around 4.30am.

West Midlands Fire Service tweeted: "Five crews were called to a fire at 01:43 last night involving a car, which spread to a vehicle repair shop, on Wolverhampton Street in Darlaston."

"The incident, which is believed to be arson, was scaled down to 3 crews by 02:24 and we have since left the scene."

Message

A West Midlands Fire Service spokesman said: "We were called to the scene at 11.43am. It was a 999 call to Wolverhampton Street, Darlaston."

"We had five engines at the scene and crews were from Wednesbury, Willenhall, Tipton, West Bromwich, and Wednesbury. That is about 25 firefighters."

"A stop message came in at 4.32am. It involved a severe fire in a single-storey vehicle repair workshop."

"Due to the severity, we sectorised the incident and 12 firefighters were breathing apparatus and used two hose reel jets and one positive ventilation fan to clear the smoke."

"A covering jet was also used to ensure the fire did not spread further."

"Police along with gas and electric were in attendance."

"It is believed to have been started deliberately."



West Midlands Fire tweeted photographs of the charred cars



Firefighters at work as they tried to contain the blaze in Darlaston

New system for publisher

CHRONICLE publisher Midlands News Association (MNA) is the first customer to go live with Knowledge Prospect, a new system from publishing software developer PCS.

A successor to the advertising system ABS, Knowledge Prospect is an advertising sales and customer management platform developed in-house by the PCS team.

Graeme Clifford, print MD at MNA, said: "After researching an alternative to ABS, we found there was nothing

suitable on the market to handle our business needs."

"After speaking to sister company PCS, we decided to take a partnership approach in developing Knowledge Prospect so it not only meets our requirements now and in the future, but also those of other publishers."

Phil Walker, MD at PCS, said: "We have spent a lot of time making sure that Knowledge Prospect does what our existing and potential customers want it to do."

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Plaque marks pub's link with famous composer



Deputy mayoress Pat Peters, left, deputy mayor Peter Hitchman, Civic Society chair John Thompson, The Hedgehog's general manager Dan Emery, Swedish Clementi Society chair Bengt Hultman and Vintage Inns area manager Greg Yates

A BLUE plaque in honour of 18th Century composer Muzio Clementi has been unveiled at his former home - The Hedgehog pub in Lichfield.

Some 150 guests gathered at the pub for the official unveiling and celebrate Clementi's link to the city.

The plaque was unveiled by Bengt Hultman, chairman of the Swedish Clementi Society, who travelled from Sweden for the event after being invited by the Lichfield Civic Society.

The Hedgehog was known as Lyncroft House when it was built in the late 18th Century.

Born in Rome in 1752, Clementi was a celebrated composer, musician and conductor. He spent much of his life in England and moved to Lyncroft House in 1830. The installation of the blue plaque at the Hedgehog was proposed by the Lichfield Civic Society.

Frank Horsfall, a member of the society, said: "We're thrilled to be able to celebrate Clementi's association with Lichfield with the installation of a plaque at his former home. It's a befitting honour for such a distinguished former Lichfield resident."

Alex, 30, is chosen for scholarship

A STUDENT from Burntwood has beaten off tough competition to be awarded a prestigious national scholarship.

Alex Blower is one of seven students nationally to have been

selected from more than 200 applicants for the Cumberland Lodge Scholarship.

The scholarship is a two-year programme for doctoral students studying at UK universities. It enables students from any discipline to develop skills in communication and public engagement.

The 30-year-old will receive mentoring, networking opportunities, training in public engagement skills and a personal development grant of up to £300.

Alex, who is studying for a PhD in Education at the University of Wolverhampton, said: "I feel very privileged to have been selected for the scholarship."



Alex Blower

Man, 29, charged after collision

A MAN will appear in court next week charged with failing to give a breath test after a crash in Cannock.

Aaron Prescod, aged 29, of Kingsway, Cannock, was arrested at 1.30am on Thursday and later charged. It followed a collision in Moss Road, Cannock, at 11.40pm on Wednesday.

He was granted unconditional bail and is due to appear before Cannock magistrates on July 27.

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Paz's cake for Rocky star Stallone a real knockout

A CAKE maker to the stars had to have the eye of the tiger when it came to whipping up a knockout birthday treat for Rocky hero Sylvester Stallone.

The Hollywood megastar was presented with the surprise six-tier sponge – made by Paz Keer of AB Cakes in Wolverhampton – for his 72nd celebration.

The baker, from Essington, who previously made a Predator themed cake for Arnold Schwarzenegger, said he was 'amazed' to be chosen for such an important task, which was arranged as part of a fan experience event in Birmingham, also celebrating more than 40 years of the boxing film franchise.

And the 37-year-old admitted he was more than a little starstruck standing next to Stallone on stage in front of thousands of people at the International Convention Centre in Broad Street.

Corridor

Paz said: "I'm a massive fan, who isn't? It was amazing. I saw him in the corridor at the event and was like 'wow'. I was acting calm but Sylvester Stallone was standing right in front of me.

"People had come in from Dubai and Amsterdam for this event, and paid up to £1,000 for a ticket. It's amazing to think I'm just from Wolverhampton and I was there."

Paz started the vanilla sponge cake on July 1 and had it ready just six days later for the event, the day after Stallone's birthday, on July 7 – complete with a Rocky glove sticking out of the top.

The talented baker said he worked until 3am most days, struggling to



Stallone with Rambo knife and cake



With the Schwarzenegger cake



Paz Keer, of AB Cakes, on stage with Sylvester Stallone and the cake

keep the cake altogether due to the hot weather.

"I had to keep going back and forward. It was just so hot to work on it," said Paz.

"The icing needs to be cool otherwise you leave fingermarks, so I had to keep going back to it."

Paz even handed Sylvester a 13-inch exact replica of the knife from Rambo

3, to cut the cake with at the event – during which Stallone also received video birthday messages from the likes of fellow action stars Arnie and Jean-Claude Van Damme.

Paz added: "He turned from Rocky to Rambo as soon as he held that knife. It was incredible."

Paz said Rihanna was on his wish-list of customers for the future.

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Part of the Birmingham cityscape on view at the centre



Part of the entrance at the discovery centre



The team get ready for the opening at Legoland Discovery Centre



Visitors enjoy Legoland Discovery Centre in Birmingham



Legoland Discovery Centre Birmingham



Youngsters getting involved making their own creations in Lego

Legoland puts it all together

THE eagerly-awaited Legoland Discovery Centre in Birmingham has opened its doors.

The brand new £7million Merlin attraction, based at Arena Birmingham, features a Miniland, 4D cinema, creative work-

shop, Lego Duplo Farm, Lego City Builder, Merlin's Apprentice Ride, Kingdom Quest Laser Ride, Lego Racers: Build and Test, shop and cafe.

Miniland is built from more than 1.5 million Lego bricks and is an interactive city where visitors can 'see airships swoop and towers glow as

the little land changes from day to night'.

'Our mischievous Minifigures love hiding in Miniland - who will you spot?' says the attraction's website.

Those enjoying the 4D Cinema, meanwhile, can experience rain, wind and even snow all under one roof. There is also a Build and Test area which has thousands of bricks

waiting to be made into shapes and vehicles, which can then be tried out on the speed test track and the Lego City Builder lets visitors make their very own Miniland.

Describing the Merlin's Apprentice Ride, meanwhile, the Discovery Centre site says: 'Enter Merlin's magical potion room and discover a Lego wizard's world of spells and sorcery.'

'Round and round you go, pedal as fast as you can to help Merlin conjure his magic - can you reach the skies and become Merlin's top wizarding apprentice?'

Specially designed for kids aged three to 10, the 58,900 sq ft indoor Legoland Discovery Centre is based at Arena Birmingham, opposite The National Sea Life Centre.

Driving test passes going wrong way

AROUND two thirds of learner drivers are failing their tests in parts of the Black Country - making it one of the toughest places to pass in the UK.

At test centres in Wolverhampton and Wednesbury just 37.5 per cent of all learners passed their practical tests between April 2017 and March 2018 - way below the national average of 46 per cent.

There was a better pass rate at Dudley's Lower Gornal centre, where 48.9 per cent of people passed - 4,861. And the figures from the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency show that Stafford had a better than average pass rate too. Over the year there were 1,393 passes from 2,807 tests at a rate of 49.6 per cent.

The toughest place to pass in the country was The Pavilion test centre, in Birmingham, where just 30.2 per cent of learner drivers got their licence. Wolverhampton test centre in Spring Road conducted 8,354 tests over 2017-18 and 3,142 people passed, while in Wednesbury 7,683 tests took place and 2,844 people passed.

Assessed

The data also shows a disparity between pass rates for men and women. In Dudley 55.3 per cent per cent of men who attempted the practical test managed to pass, compared to 43.7 per cent of women. In Wolverhampton 43.9 per cent of men gained their licence compared to 33.1 per cent of women, and it was a similar situation in Sandwell.

DVSA deputy chief driving examiner, Gordon Witherspoon, said: "All candidates are assessed to the same level. We expect candidates and instructors to become more familiar with the new test and well continue to monitor it."

Learners now must navigate using a sat-nav, explain how to test the brakes, clean the windscreen and demist their windows.

But the pass rate has dropped nearly 10 per cent to 47.7 per cent over the last year.

Rewarding local people

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WOLVERHAMPTON
MAGAZINE



From left, Andy Street, Mayor of the West Midlands; Tom Wilcox and Malcolm Wilcox of Cordwell Property Group; Councillor Adrian Andrew; Mark Darler of Stepnells and Gerald Gannaway of Finance Birmingham.

Street checks progress on town centre project

WORK to transform a brown-field site in Walsall town centre into a thriving commercial quarter is on course to be complete by Christmas.

Andy Street, Mayor of the West Midlands, visited the development in Littleton Street West which received £6.9m from the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Collective Investment Fund (CIF).

Work to build a 60-bedroom Travelodge hotel, drive-thru takeaway and three retail units on the 35,000 square foot site is being delivered by Worcestershire developers Cordwell Property

Group. With the steel frames for the buildings now up, completion of the development is expected in December.

The Mayor joined Walsall Council deputy leader and cabinet member for regeneration Councillor Adrian Andrew to see how the work is progressing.

Financial

He said: "This site has been derelict for some time now and I'm really pleased the WMCA has been able to provide the financial support necessary to get it up and running."

"More than 100 jobs will be created as part of this scheme. But just as importantly, it's another important piece in the regeneration jigsaw of

Walsall town centre. I know the council have ambitious plans to improve not only the commercial offer in the centre, but also continue the residential development, particularly around the Waterfront which we hope the WMCA can continue to support."

Mr Andrew said: "It's great to see work going so well on one of the most important sites in the town centre. When complete, this will be a fantastic Christmas present for the town."

The CIF is a £70m commercial development fund set up by the WMCA to stimulate jobs, opportunity and growth and provides short-term loans to private sector developers to enable them to get schemes off the ground.

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Departing Friday 26 Oct

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It features a stainless steel grill for cooking BBQ style food, pizza stone for baking artisan pizzas and a damper and vents for smoking food. Also included is a temperature gauge for the cooking compartment, ashtray and upper chimney for oxygen flow. There's a handle on the side with two wheels so it can be manoeuvred easily and a handy storage shelf at the bottom, it is sure to be the perfect addition to any garden.

Made from durable steel and measures L59 x W48.5 x H157cm. Some easy self-assembly required. Also available is a storage cover to protect your pizza oven from the elements when not in use.

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G2442 Ice cream maker

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Automatic Ice Maker

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Please note: The ice making cycle lasts 6-13 minutes depending on the ice cube size and the room temperature. The recommended room temperature for use is 10°C- 43°C.

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Have Faith! It's the First Lady of R'n'B

American singer Faith Evans will return to the UK to headline a major tour. The Grammy-winning star has been in the public eye for more than 25 years and has enjoyed a successful career as a singer and actress.

She'll play songs from her hit 2017 album *The King & I*, recorded with her late husband, The Notorious B.I.G., when she takes to the stage at Birmingham's O2 Institute on Saturday.

The record was released to mark the 20th Anniversary of the passing of the Notorious B.I.G.

The death of her husband has left a void. "There is still no closure for us, but we just got tired of fighting what seemed to be a never-ending battle. It's not any easier for us today 20 years later than it was for us at seven or eight years."

"The funny thing is I didn't plan for our album to drop last year, it was supposed to drop the year before. But to me it's the little things that let me know that Big approves the album because there were lots of little ways that I felt he was a part of the process."

Faith is already working on a biopic based on her 2009 memoir, *Keep the Faith*, which chronicles her life and career, including her marriage to Biggie and his much-publicized infidelity.

Despite the drama that transpired between Faith, Lil' Kim and other women involved with Biggie in the autobiography, the songstress makes it clear it won't be heavily played onscreen.

"I'm the executive producer on it, and I'm working closely with the screenwriters. It's definitely not going to be something other than what I would want to see. I like to be very tactful – but honest."

Faith says *The King and I* was a cathartic project. "The title actually was divine inspiration. I didn't have a list of like, any thoughts of what the album title was going to be, but funny enough that's the first thing that just dropped in my lap before I recorded one song."

COMFORTABLE

She was glad to make peace with Lil' Kim on there.

"Well I don't know . . . because like you said, I haven't had those feelings in a while. I can't speak for her whenever she felt like, 'OK, it's time to kind of let it go,' but thankfully she's in a different place. I really don't know when. I've seen her several times in passing throughout the years, but then when we were rehearsing for the *Bad Boy Tour* was probably the first time I actually had a full conversation with her since back when we actually hung out."

"You know, back in the day. That was – I won't say different because it's not like I don't know who Kim is – but it was different just to feel comfortable. I felt like she understood where I was coming from; it was a feeling. She actually was receptive and as soon as I asked her about being on the album, she's like, 'Of course!' So I don't think that was the defining moment of a hatchet being buried or anything. In previous times, it was never like she didn't say hello back if I said hi. I always said hi if I saw her, but [the *Bad Boy Tour*] was certainly a forum where we got to see each other a little more often. Doing shows every day, I would stop in her dressing room and

Still missing you – Faith still thinks of ex-hubbe, Notorious B.I.G.



play with her baby and stuff like that. The tour certainly was a catalyst for the recovery of our relationship, I would say."

Faith thinks about her whirlwind relationship with Biggie on a daily basis. Her memories are ever-present and she reflects constantly on the impact he had on her life.

"I can't say I think about it like, 'What if we didn't get married?' but I can't say that I've never reflected on it like, 'Yeah, we did move really fast'. We're doing a documentary with A&E Films about Big, and I just recently saw the rough cut and there were some clips of interview pieces of him that I had never heard. He was like, 'You know, maybe she won't admit it but I'll admit it. We were moving too fast and everything, but we was in love!' So obviously what he was saying was probably in response to someone asking him about how fast, but we fell in love! We did, and knowing that things would definitely not be the same in so many ways, I'm glad that I was already prepared to kind of look at the bigger picture in many ways with things."

Faith wasn't actually a huge fan of Biggie's before they got married.

"I wasn't familiar with his music prior to when we met. He probably had *Party & Bull-t* and maybe the *Mary* song that he was on *Real Love*, but I

I was a church girl. It's not that I didn't listen to secular music, but I wasn't hip-hop savvy

didn't really know who he was. I was a church girl. It's not that I didn't listen to secular music, but I wasn't the most hip-hop savvy. But Puff had a Father's Day party which was the first night he ended up going home with me and we made love and all that. But when I saw him on stage, I was just blown away. I'm just in the audience like, 'Oh, he's performing?' because he'd just kept asking me was I coming to this party and I saw him on stage. I didn't know any of the songs either, but I just was looking at him and just how he had the crowd and how he didn't have to do that much because he just had a certain confidence and swagger. I was like, 'wow'. Then after the show, everybody was just clamoring around him and they was like, 'Where you going?' and he was like, 'I'm going with her'. I was like, 'Oh, OK! Come on, daddy!'"

Andy Richardson

● For more entertainment news and reviews see **The Ticket** in your Express & Star every Friday.

CHOICE



Katie Derham

Proms Extra (BBC2, 6.50pm)
New series. Katie Derham presents the weekly magazine show on which she joined by leading stars of the classical world for conversation about all that the Proms season has to offer. In the spotlight for the first 2018 edition are Five Telegrams from the First Night of the Proms, the Young Musicians Prom and multi-instrumentalist Jacob Collier, while David Owen Norris returns with Chord of the Week.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nadiya's Family Favourites. (R) **12.00** Athletics: Monaco Diamond League Highlights. **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Athletics: Anniversary Games. Gabby Logan presents coverage from London Stadium. **4.00** Athletics: World Cup. **5.05** Wedding Day Winners. **6.05** **BBC News**. **6.15** **Regional Programme**. **6.20** **Film: Wreck-It Ralph**. (2012) A video game villain grows tired of always being the bad guy, and ventures into other games in search of the chance to be a hero, unwittingly causing chaos in the process. When a deadly threat to the entire arcade appears, it falls to him to set things right. Animated adventure, with the voices of John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman and Jane Lynch. **7.55** **Pointless Celebrities**. Richard Madeley and his daughter Chloe, JLS star JB and his wife Chloe, Fern Britton and her daughter Grace Jones, and B*Witched twins Keavy and Edele Lynch take part in a families-themed edition of the unorthodox quiz show. (R) **8.40** **Casualty**. Bea tries to give Alicia the help she needs following the attack, while Eddie tries to rebuild their relationship – only to be told they are purely professional colleagues. Jacob lies to Sam and tells her that Blake knows about their relationship. Elsewhere, after overhearing Sam express her doubts that she will last another shift, Ruby attempts to build bridges with her colleagues and patients. A father and son are brought in with injuries they refuse to explain, raising suspicions of abuse – but it is not clear who is the abuser and who the victim. **9.30** **Mrs Brown's Boys**. Agnes looks after a robotic baby that has been given to Dermot and Maria to help them prepare for their new arrival, and Cathy develops a crush on her psychology lecturer. (R) **10.00** **BBC News**: Weather. National Lottery Update. **10.20** **Film: Pretty Woman**. (1990) A millionaire businessman hires a prostitute for a week, and falls in love with her despite their many differences. Romantic comedy, starring Julia Roberts. **12.15** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.20** BBC News.

BBC2

6.35 Marrying Mum and Dad. **7.00** Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers. **7.30** The Dengineers. (R) **8.00** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R) **8.30** Deadly Dinosaurs with Steve Backshall. (R) **9.00** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **9.25** Animal Odd Couples. (R) **10.25** Coast. (R) **11.00** Second Chance Summer: Tuscany. (R) **12.00** Simply Nigella. (R) **12.30** Kew on a Plate. (R) **1.30** Garden Rescue. (R) **2.15** Wanted Down Under. (R) **3.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.00** Ben & James Versus the Arabian Desert. (R) **5.00** Flog It! (R) **5.50** Supercharged Otters: Natural World. (R) **6.50** **Proms Extra**. New series. Katie Derham presents the weekly magazine show on which she joined by leading stars of the classical world for conversation about all that the Proms season has to offer. **7.30** **Dad's Army**. Captain Mainwaring is alarmed to discover the extent of butcher Corporal Jones's cash-flow crisis and takes drastic measures to help him. Comedy from 1975, starring Clive Dunn. (R) **8.00** **Golf: The Open Championship Highlights**. Eilidh Barbour presents action from the third day of the prestigious event at Carnoustie Golf Links in Angus, Scotland, as the players aimed to move a step closer to glory. In the third round at Royal Birkdale last year, eventual champion Jordan Spieth strengthened his grip at the top of the leaderboard by shooting 65 to move three shots clear of his American compatriot Matt Kuchar. However, the day belonged to South African Branden Grace after he became the first man in history to card a 62 in a major championship. Grace holed eight birdies in a bogey-free third round to set the record. With commentary from Peter Alliss, Ken Brown, Andrew Cotter and Maureen Madill. **10.00** **QI XL**. Bill Bailey, Phill Jupitus and Claudia Winkleman join Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig for an extended edition of the unconventional quiz. (R) **10.45** **Touretteshero: Me, My Mouth and I**. **11.45** **Film: Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom**. (2013) **2.05** Picnic at Hanging Rock. (R) **3.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Mission Employable. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Possession. (R) **7.30** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Saturday. **9.25** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **10.25** The Voice Kids. (R) **11.55** ITV News: Weather. **12.05** Midsomer Murders. (R) **2.00** Catchphrase. (R) **2.45** Tenable. (R) **3.45** Tipping Point. (R) **4.45** The Chase. (R) **5.45** ITV News: Weather. **6.05** **Regional Programme**: Weather. **6.15** **Film: Minions**. (2015) Premiere. A race of strange, babbling yellow creatures has served the cause of evil throughout the history of the world. In the 1960s, three of these eternal henchmen get a job working for a criminal genius who is hatching a plot against the British crown – but while carrying out her orders, they uncover a threat to their whole species. Animated comedy, with the voices of Sandra Bullock, Pierre Coffin, Jon Hamm and Michael Keaton. **8.00** **The Voice Kids Live Final**. After a week of competition, Emma Willis presents the talent contest's grand final, giving youngsters between the ages of seven and 14 the chance to achieve stardom. The Voice UK's Will.i.am, McFly's Danny Jones and pop star Pixie Lott occupy the famous spinning red chairs, but the decisions have now been taken out of the coaches' hands and now rest solely with the voting public. Last in the series. **9.35** **ITV News**: Weather. **9.55** **Film: The Bourne Ultimatum**. (2007) Amnesiac rogue assassin Jason Bourne's long-buried memories are reawakened by a British journalist researching the secret organisation that was responsible for transforming him into a killing machine. Meanwhile, a ruthless CIA director becomes convinced Bourne is still a security risk, and plans to dispose of him once and for all. Third instalment of the spy thriller series, directed by Paul Greengrass and starring Matt Damon. **11.55** **You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of viewers' videos. (R) **12.20** Jackpot247. **3.00** Mr Selfridge. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Cycling: Velothon Wales. **6.35** Motor Sport: Chateau Impney Hill Climb. **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **9.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.20** The Simpsons. (R) **10.50** The Simpsons. (R) **11.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.20** Four in a Bed. (R) **12.50** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.20** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.50** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.25** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.55** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **3.55** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It. (R) **5.00** Channel 4 News. **5.30** Formula 1 German Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **7.05** **Inside Bentley: A Great British Motor Car**. Documentary going behind the scenes at the car company's plant in northwest England, as work commences on a new range of 4x4s. This is the first time cameras have had access to the plant, which is currently undergoing millions in new investment. The programme features the local people and master craftsmen working on the factory floor as well as visiting the world's most exclusive car showroom in Mayfair and the secretive department where customers can obtain the latest upgrades to their bespoke vehicle. (R) **8.00** **Great Canal Journeys: India**. Part two of two. Timothy West and Prunella Scales leave India's canals behind to explore the Brahmaputra river, a rarely navigated stretch of water with a remarkable history. They follow an old tea trading route, meet a community of monks and take a ride on an elephant. (R) **9.00** **Film: Kingsman: The Secret Service**. (2015) A streetwise teenager is taken under the wing of his dead father's old colleague, an agent working for a super-secret spy organisation. Will the youngster prove to be a chip off the old block by proving useful during a battle against a twisted, hi-tech genius? Action comedy based on a comic book, starring Colin Firth, Taron Egerton and Samuel L. Jackson. **11.35** **Film: The Visit**. (2015) Premiere. Horror, with Olivia DeJonge. **1.10** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.05** The Big Narstie Show. (R) **3.00** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.10** My Kitchen Rules. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.10** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.45** Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 3. (R) **11.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.10** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. (R) **2.10** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. (R) **3.10** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **4.10** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **5.10** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R) **6.05** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away Special**. In an episode full of surprises, agents Paul and Steve make a dangerous discovery leading to them calling the police. Elsewhere, Stewart and Elmore face a moral dilemma, and Paul and Steve hear a story that stops them in their tracks. (R) **7.00** **Blind Date**. Paul O'Grady hosts as feisty fashion student Mia chooses between blogger Howie, Geordie lad Declan and musician Elijah. Customer service adviser Stephen from Blackpool then makes his decision, choosing from bodybuilder Trent, teacher Julia and Marilyn Monroe impersonator Suzie. Plus, model Plum and dancer Jose return to the studio, reporting on their dates and revealing how they got on. **8.00** **Before They Were Stars**. A trek back through the TV archive to uncover embarrassing early brushes with fame endured by some of today's biggest stars. Among those skewered are pop stars, rock legends, silver-screen icons, celebrated comedians and sporting heroes. **8.55** **5 News Weekend**. **9.00** **Victoria Wood: Her Life As Seen on TV**. Profile of the writer and comedian, charting her career from her initial breakthrough singing comedy songs on 1970s talent show New Faces, through to her subsequent TV series and stand-up shows. Featuring clips of some of the funniest performances of her 40-year career and contributions from friends, fans and co-stars, including Richard E Grant, Duncan Preston, Kate Robbins and Barry Cryer. (R) **10.00** **Victoria Wood: Live 1997**. The comedian performs stand-up and sketches, recorded during Victoria's 1997 tour and acclaimed as one of the very best stand-up shows of the decade. (R) **12.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Mountain: Life at the Extreme **8.00** Wonders of the Monsoon **9.00** Hidden **10.00** Top of the Pops: 1986 **11.00** The Undiscovered Peter Cook **12.00** Smashing Hits! The 80's Pop Map of Britain & Ireland **1.00** Classic Soul at the BBC **2.00** Mountain: Life at the Extreme **3.00** Wonders of the Monsoon **4.00** Close
ITV2
12.50 Catchphrase **1.30** You've Been Framed! **2.00** **Film: You've Got Mail** (1998) **3.10** FYI Daily **3.15** **Film: You've Got Mail** (1998) **4.25** **Film: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold** (2009) **5.25** FYI Daily **5.30** **Film: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold** (2009) **6.35** **Film: The Mummy Returns** (2001) **7.35** FYI Daily **7.40** **Film: The Mummy Returns** (2001) **9.00** Love Island: The Weekly Hot List **9.05** Keith Lemon: Coming in America **10.50** Family Guy **12.20** American Dad! **1.15** CelebAbilty **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** **ITV2** Nightscreen
ITV3
1.30 **ITV Racing**: Live from Newbury. Francesca Cumani presents coverage from Newbury, Market Rasen and Newmarket. **4.00** Rosemary & Thyme **5.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Vera **1.00** Honest **2.00** **ITV3** Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping
ITV4
12.00 Tour de France Live. **5.00** Storage Wars: Texas **6.00** Monster Car **7.00** Tour de France Highlights **8.00** **Film: The Living Daylights** (1987) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10** **Film: The Living Daylights** (1987) **10.45** Rugby World Cup Sevens Highlights **11.45** Better Late Than Never **12.40** Minder **1.45** The Motorbike Show **2.35** Sporting Funnies **2.45** **ITV4** Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
12.30 The Goldbergs **3.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.30** Young Sheldon **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film: The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones** (2013) **11.35** Gogglebox **1.40** Tattoo Fixers **2.40** Rude Tube **3.35** Gogglebox **4.25** Rude(ish) **4.50** How I Met Your Mother
Film4
11.00 Napoleon Dynamite (2004) **1.00** The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) **2.45** The Indian in the Cupboard (1995) **4.35** Picture Perfect (1997) **6.40** Back to the Future Part III (1990) **9.00** Gladiator (2000) **12.00** The Mechanic (2011) **1.45** The Hunting in Connecticut (2009) **3.55** Close

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CHOICE



Nicola Walker

Unforgotten (ITV, 9pm)
Cassie and Sunny go in search of Hayley's family as the press begin to take an interest in the story. A detective who was involved in the original investigation offers his thoughts on why her disappearance remained unsolved, pointing out that Hayley's boyfriend was suspected of the crime but was never charged. The distance between where Hayley was last seen and where her body was found leads Cassie to form a new theory - that the killer may have travelled up from London, then returned before they could be questioned.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Garden Rescue. (R) **2.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Lifetime. **3.55** Songs of Praise. **4.30** Animals Behaving Badly. (R) **5.30** Eat Well for Less? (R) **6.30** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. A special episode from Cumbria celebrates Countryfile's 30th anniversary, in which John Craven introduces a countdown of the show's 30 most memorable moments from the past three decades. Matt Baker meets a local fell walker, and Tom Heap investigates Countryfile's coverage of Foot and Mouth disease, and meets a local farmer to discover how he coped with the outbreak. Ellie Harrison meets some student wildlife film-makers, and Steve Brown meets boating enthusiasts in Ullswater engaged in a prestigious contest. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team value decorative objects and rarities, returning to Cardiff Castle. Silver specialist Gordon Foster is fascinated by an elaborately decorated Indian flask, while John Benjamin reveals what was thought to be costume jewellery is actually the real thing. Plus, Fiona goes on the hunt for a lost 1933 penny worth a small fortune now, and Roadshow veteran Henry Sandon gets his hands on a rare piece of porcelain. **9.00** Poldark. Ross grows furious at Adairley's unwarranted advances to Demeza and resorts to violence – a confrontation that results in his being formally challenged to a duel. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** Imagine – Rose Wylie: This Rose Is Blooming. Alan Yentob meets the painter, known for her exuberant, large-scale canvases. He discovers how her memories and experiences have helped mould her into the artist she is today. **11.35** Film: A Little Chaos. (2014) Period drama, with Kate Winslet and Matthias Schoenaerts. **1.25** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.45** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **7.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** Countryfile. (R) **9.25** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.55** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **12.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **1.00** Athletics: Anniversary Games. Gabby Logan presents coverage of day two from London Stadium. **4.30** Flog It! (R) **5.30** Secrets of Silicon Valley. (R) **6.30** Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing. (R) **7.00** Inside the Factory. Gregg Wallace explores an enormous Derbyshire coffee factory, where they produce 175,000 jars of instant coffee a day. He follows the production of freeze dried instant coffee, from the arrival of 27 tonnes of Brazilian green coffee beans right through to dispatch. Meanwhile, Cherry Healey learns about the drink's chemistry and Ruth Goodman investigates its origins, visiting the site of the UK's very first coffee house which sprang up in a London churchyard in 1652. (R) **8.00** Golf: The Open Championship Highlights. Eilidh Barbour presents action from the fourth and final day of the prestigious event at Carnoustie Golf Links in Angus, Scotland, as the third Major of the year drew to a close. Each of the last three Opens held at Carnoustie have been decided by a play-off, including Padraig Harrington's triumph in 2007 and Paul Lawrie's win on home soil in 1999. With commentary from Peter Alliss, Ken Brown, Andrew Cotter and Maureen Madill. **10.00** Shankly: Nature's Fire. Profile of football manager Bill Shankly, examining his success during two periods running Liverpool and the influence his Ayrshire roots had on his career. (R) **11.30** Idris Elba – King of Speed. Part one of two. Document in which the Luther star embarks on an international journey to explore the history of car racing while sampling the thrill of competition vehicles. (R) **12.30** Sign Zone: Countryfile. Sean Fletcher presents a special programme on Wales. (R) **1.25** Holly City. Sacha tries a new romance, tensions rise as Meena moves from Nicky's turf up on Darwin, and Donna puts Zai to the test. (R) **2.25** This Is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Mission Employable. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Possession. (R) **7.30** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Sunday. **9.25** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **10.15** Midsomer Murders. (R) **12.15** ITV News: Weather. **12.25** The Voice Kids Live Final. (R) **1.55** Film: Mamma Mia! (2008) Musical comedy, starring Meryl Streep. **4.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R) **6.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. Paul meets a large bull mastiff with some very particular demands, a pair of chihuahua pug crosses with a strange family dynamic and an unusual looking mongrel which is very shy. (R) **6.30** ITV News: Weather. **6.45** Regional Programme: Weather. **7.00** Vera. A mother of two is found murdered in her back garden. Vera and Aidan investigate the case, and delve into the disturbing secrets and ongoing conflicts that lurk beneath the surface of the victim's seemingly peaceful suburban community. The case takes a more complicated turn when the dead woman's estranged family make an unexpected reappearance, and while several of her neighbours may have had cause to carry out a crime of passion, her relatives may have had compelling motives of their own to kill. Guest starring Rita Tushingham. (R) **9.00** Unforgotten. Cassie and Sunny go in search of Hayley's family, while a detective who was involved in the original investigation offers his thoughts on why her disappearance remained unsolved. **10.00** ITV News: Weather. **10.20** Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera. Another selection of clips showcasing what can go wrong on holiday, including a couple getting an unexpected visitor to their tent on a safari holiday. (R) **11.20** Goodwood Festival of Speed. Action from the Goodwood Estate as motoring enthusiasts from around the world gathered for the historic car and bike event. **12.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **6.15** The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Film: The Boxtrolls. (2014) Stop-motion animated fantasy, with the voice of Isaac Hempstead Wright. **3.20** Bang on Budget. **4.20** Homes by the Med. **5.20** Location, Location, Location. (R) **6.20** Channel 4 News. **6.45** Formula 1 German Grand Prix Highlights. Steve Jones and David Coulthard present action from the 11th round of the season at the Hockenheimring, as the race returned to the calendar after being absent last year. Lewis Hamilton took the honours here in 2016, and will be looking for another victory to help reduce Sebastian Vettel's lead in the standings. **9.00** The Handmaid's Tale. A frustrated Serena Joy becomes desperate, and the Commander tries to make amends. Nick pushes Eden further away, and Offred is faced with an unexpected reunion. **10.10** Artist in Residence: The Sex Clinic. New series. Artists move in to unusual locations to seek fresh inspiration, beginning with Bryony Kimming, who talks to patients at a sexual health clinic about their lives. **11.05** Film: Stonehearst Asylum. (2014) A lunatic asylum descends into mayhem as the patients take control and try to establish their own society. Gothic horror, starring Kate Beckinsale. **1.10** The Last Leg. Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by celebrity guests for a comic review of the significant moments of the past seven days. (R) **2.50** Film: My Golden Days. (2015) Premiere. A French anthropologist reflects on his troubled adolescence, including a life-changing trip to Russia. Drama, starring Quentin Dolmaire and Mathieu Amalric. **4.10** Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. The host helps three homeowners struggling to sell their property in West Sussex, including indie, who needs to create a lounge from scratch in an old post office room. (R) **5.05** My Kitchen Rules. Helen and Liz are first to cook in the second week. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Kittens. (R) **6.40** Seaside Antics. (R) **6.45** Only the Little White Van. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.30** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.45** Rusty Rivets. (R) **8.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.15** Pirata & Capitano. **8.30** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.50** Hoogals. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.35** Blind Date. (R) **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20** Film: The Dark Crystal. (1982) **1.20** Access. **1.25** Film: The Dark Crystal. (1982) Concluded. **2.15** Film: Labyrinth. (1986) **3.15** Access. **3.20** Film: Labyrinth. (1986) Concluded. **4.15** Film: Nanny McPhee. (2005) **5.15** Access. **5.20** Film: Nanny McPhee. (2005) Concluded. **6.05** Wonderful World of Puppies: Hero Hounds. A litter of doberman pups learns the laws of puppy physics with an introduction to gravity, and also draw on their guard dog instincts when a photographer comes to take pictures. **7.05** Chuckle Time with the Chuckle Brothers. The comedy duo introduce this new clip-show. **7.55** 5 News Weekend. **8.00** Funniest Ever Celebrity Moments. New series. Countdowns of memorable TV moments featuring famous faces. Ore Oduba presents the first selection, which focuses on celebrities making a big impression on talent shows. **9.00** Film: 21 Jump Street. (2012) Two youthful-looking cops are sent undercover as high-school students to bring down a drugs ring. Comedy inspired by the 1980s TV series, starring Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum. **10.00** 5 News Update. **10.05** Film: 21 Jump Street. (2012) Concluded. **11.10** Film: The Green Hornet. (2011) Comic-book adventure, starring Seth Rogen. **12.10** Access. **12.15** Film: The Green Hornet. (2011) Concluded. **1.25** SuperCasino. **4.00** Britain's Greatest Bridges. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Divine Designs. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 BBC Proms 2018 **8.45** Wild Scotland **9.00** Archaeology: A Secret History **10.00** Rich Hall's Presidential Grudge Match **11.30** Six Wives with Lucy Worsley **12.30** Henry VIII's Enforcer: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Cromwell **1.30** Forest, Field & Sky: Art Out of Nature **2.30** Archaeology: A Secret History **3.25** Close
ITV2
12.05 Take Me Out **1.35** You've Been Framed! **Gold 2.35** Film: Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) **3.35** FYI Daily **4.40** Film: Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) **4.25** Film: Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) **5.25** FYI Daily **5.30** Film: Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) **6.10** Hotel Transylvania: Pupp! **6.15** Film: Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) **7.20** FYI Daily **7.25** Film: Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) **9.00** Love Island **10.00** Love Island: Afterburn **11.05** Family Guy **12.05** American Dad! **1.00** You vs Chris & Kam **2.05** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
9.00 The Halcyon **11.00** Wire in the Blood **1.00** Blue Murder **2.15** Liverpool 1 **3.10** Road to Avonlea **4.45** Murder, She Wrote **5.35** ITV3 Nightscreen
ITV4
12.00 Tour de France Live. **5.15** Football Rivalries **5.30** Storage Wars: Texas **7.00** Tour de France Highlights **8.00** River Monsters **9.00** Film: The Chronicles of Riddick (2004) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** Film: The Chronicles of Riddick (2004) **11.20** Rugby World Cup Sevens Highlights **12.20** Film: Red Heat (1988) **1.20** FYI Daily **1.25** Film: Red Heat (1988) **2.25** The Protectors **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
11.25 The Crystal Maze **12.30** Rude(ish) Tube **12.55** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.55** Young Sheldon **2.25** The Big Bang Theory **6.50** Film: Rango (2011) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Gogglebox **11.05** Gogglebox Australia **12.10** The Big Bang Theory **1.05** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.05** Gogglebox Australia **2.55** Rude Tube **3.25** Hollyoaks
Film4
11.00 The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) **1.00** Carry On Cleo (1964) **2.50** One Fine Day (1996) **5.00** Ice Age (2002) **8.45** The Imitation Game (2014) **9.00** Legend (2015) **11.35** Captive (2015) **1.40** To Kill a King (2003) **3.50** Close



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033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

or visit us online at

omegabreaks.com/RT

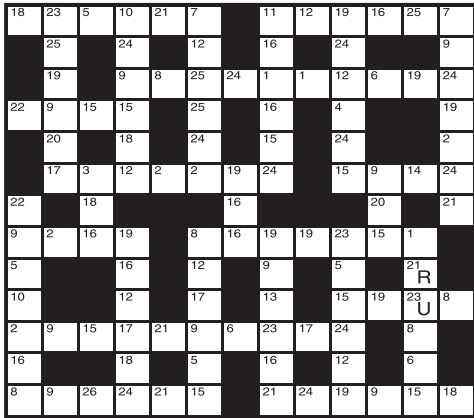


BRAIN GYM

No.488

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
X	W	S	C	D	V	Q	N	O	F	Y	J	G
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
H	L	I	B	Z	T	R	K	M	P	E	A	U

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.

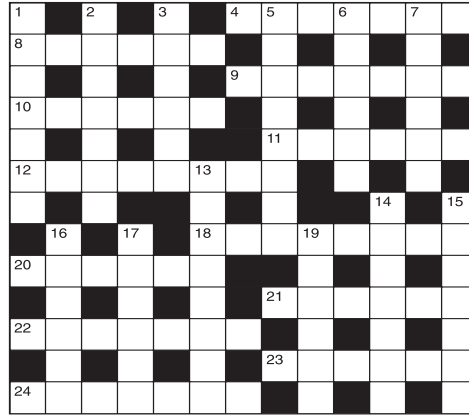
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- On air journey, youth leader becomes giddy (7)
- Sport in the packaging department? (6)
- To carve ham (7)
- Indicates letters used in incantations (6)
- Give ear to silent reform (6)
- Letter used in the manner of a buccaneer (8)
- Defer mail open to change (8)
- Producer of electricity from Monday (6)
- Trivial insult (6)
- Thus, being lawful, make an appeal (7)
- Be relevant to animal appearing (4,2)
- Stuck in this place with a theologian around (7)

Down

- Lamb, say, is extremely bad (7)
- Right in leaving out selected passage (7)
- Horn learnt badly (6)
- Cut down on affection, receiving none at all (8)
- Has rig-out which is showy (6)
- Marked correct time? (6)
- Suitable to place in monkey (8)
- Fake produced by a blacksmith? (7)
- Giving permission for hiring (7)
- Verbal saying? (6)
- Salty South African class of goods (6)
- Agriculturalist at the helm? (6)



Quick Clues:

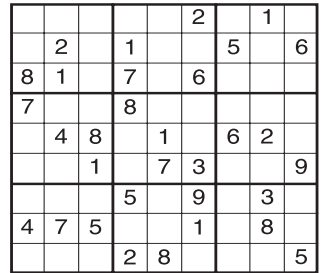
Across

- Relief (7)
- Eatable (6)
- Competent (7)
- Annul (6)
- Sting (6)
- Courageous (8)
- Upset (8)
- Seemly (6)
- Treat (6)
- Chief city (7)
- Glimpse (6)
- Under (7)

Down

- Chorus (7)
- Contend (7)
- Gratify (6)
- Rouse (8)
- Courteous (6)
- Threefold (6)
- Lengthen (8)
- Sweet dish (7)
- Whole number (7)
- Ten years (6)
- Contrivance (6)
- Indeed (6)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	7	3	4	8	6	9	2	1
8	4	9	3	1	2	6	5	7
6	2	1	9	5	7	4	8	3
4	6	2	1	3	9	5	7	8
9	1	5	6	7	8	3	4	2
3	8	7	2	4	5	1	6	9
7	9	4	8	6	3	2	1	5
2	5	6	7	9	1	8	3	4
1	3	8	5	2	4	7	9	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Good spirits; 9 Eat; 10 Allotment; 11 Press; 13 Cynical; 14 Needle; 16 Senate; 18 Opulent; 19 Lath; 20 China clay; 21 Act; 22 Leading role. Down: 2 Out; 3 Draws; 4 Palace; 5 Retinue; 6 Trenchant; 7 Keep in touch; 8 At all events; 12 Executive; 15 Leeward; 17 Stolen; 19 Layer; 21 Awl. QUICK - Across: 1 Domesticity; 9 And; 10 Insensate; 11 Lapse; 13 Leaders; 14 Braise; 16 Animal; 18 Lineage; 19 Minus; 20 Trickster; 21 All; 22 Celebration. Down: 2 Odd; 3 Elter; 4 Tussle; 5 Contain; 6 Tradesman; 7 Fallibility; 8 Senselessly; 12 Plaintive; 15 Shackle; 17 Better; 19 Merit; 21 Ado.

Quiz

- Who is Frank Richards' most famous creation?
- With which disease is oncology concerned?
- Which unit of distance is 1.852 km long?
- Who wrote the foreword for the surprise best-seller The Catechism?
- Which Australian PM was nicknamed 'the Prefect'?
- In which country is the IJsselmeer lake?
- Which violinist was often accompanied by his sister Hephzibah?
- Who wrote The Bostonians?
- Who plays Gilderoy Lockhart in the movie Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets?
- In which county is the seaside resort Herne Bay?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Elbrus; 2 Science fiction; 3 Order of the Garter; 4 Sherry; 5 Lead; 6 Diana Rigg;

7 Benjamin; 8 Mary Pierce; 9 Indian; 10 FBI.

Niner: CONSTABLE

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

1899
2675
163947

gives a disturbance,
gives a second disturbance,
gives a disaster.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

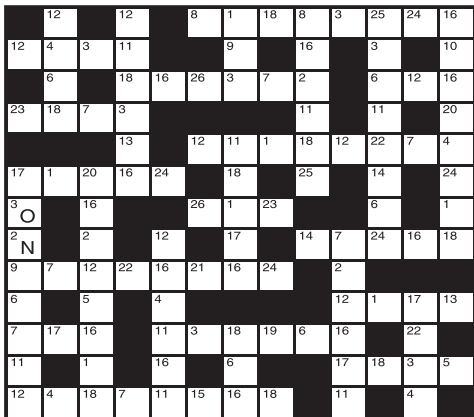
Apologies to our eagle-eyed readers who may have spotted there was no puzzle page in last week's edition... So this week it's two for the price of one! Good luck and thanks!

BRAIN GYM

No.489

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
X	W	S	C	D	V	Q	N	O	F	Y	J	G
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
H	L	I	B	Z	T	R	K	M	P	E	A	U

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.

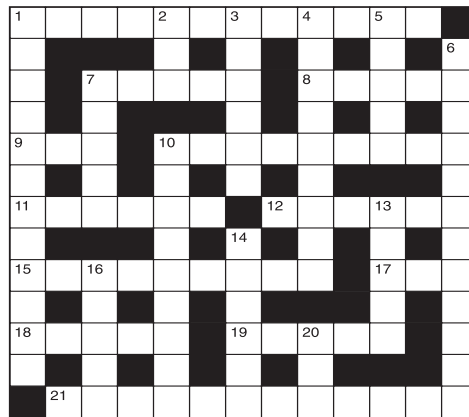
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Broken-hearted because the record is played at such an advanced hour (12)
- A tedious pest? (5)
- Sailor may employ vituperation (5)
- I shall shortly become unwell (3)
- Tavern learner hires out to man in book trade (9)
- Spiritual situation of patients? (6)
- Why the rebellion cannot be put down? (6)
- Tea's ready for this special occasion (6,3)
- Tuneful travelling medium? (3)
- In the morning everybody returned to see the animal (5)
- Smallest egghead gets in final (5)
- Craftsman who makes furniture from rock (5-7)

Down

- Without even a ghost of a hope? (12)
- A row results when it is put in (3)
- His writing was not noted for originality (6)
- It's a risk to have more than fifty with skill (9)
- Contact to get money (5)
- Great error if freezer is involved (12)
- Feel depressed underneath (5)
- Post Office clear-out in broken china-ware (9)
- This paint is not suitable (5)
- A theologian went first? That's rotten! (6)
- Does it hurt to be intelligent? (5)
- Top performer is one in suit (3)



Quick Clues:

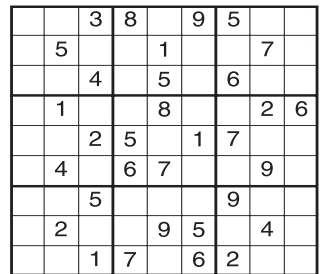
Across

- Misunderstanding (7,5)
- Put off (5)
- Don (3,2)
- Undivided (3)
- Force (6)
- Summary (6)
- Ripe (6)
- Applicable (6)
- Hostilities (3)
- Be (5)
- Express (5)
- Meddling (12)

Down

- Map-maker (12)
- Place (3)
- Audacious (6)
- Hasty (6)
- Additional (5)
- Incontrovertible (12)
- Cloth (5)
- Selected group (6)
- Let down (5)
- Snub (6)
- Rule (5)
- Sailor (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

5	7	3	4	8	6	9	2	1
8	4	9	3	1	2	6	5	7
6	2	1	9	5	7	4	8	3
4	6	2	1	3	9	5	7	8
9	1	5	6	7	8	3	4	2
3	8	7	2	4	5	1	6	9
7	9	4	8	6	3	2	1	5
2	5	6	7	9	1	8	3	4
1	3	8	5	2	4	7	9	6

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS > 17 Device; 19 Really; 13 Protract; 14 Pudding; 15 Integer; 16 Decade; 3 Rease; 5 Enkind; 6 Follie; 7 Tribble; 24 Bazaar; Down: 1 Refrain; 2 Dispute; 20 Decent; 21 Handle; 22 Capital; 23 Glance; 10 Repeat; 11 Nettle; 12 Interpel; 8 Edible; 9 Skilled; QUICK - Across: 4 Respite; 8 Edible; 9 Skilled; 16 Bazaar; 17 Saline; 19 Forger; 15 Letting; 7 Ticked; 13 Appositor; 5 Lovesess; 6 Garish; 23 Bear on; 24 Adhered; Down: 1 Alysma; 18 Postponed; 20 Dynamo; 21 Slight; 22 Solicit; 9 Overact; 10 Spelid; 11 Listen; 12 Aspirate; CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Flighty; 8 Boxing; 12 Plaintive; 15 Shackle; 17 Better; 19 Merit; 21 Ado.

Quiz

- Who was the Greek sun god?
- Of what is Moscow's Tsar Kolokol the world's largest example?
- Which casino game was adapted from the game hazard?
- How many valves does a bugle have?
- Which Jewish festival commemorates the exodus from Egypt?
- What is the largest living lizard?
- With which country did Germany sign the Anti-Comintern Pact in 1936?
- In Greek mythology, who was overthrown by his son Zeus?
- What was Susan Mayoss-Hurd the first female priest to do?
- Which Italian word for «little book» is used to denote an opera text?

Niner: FRACTIONOUS

Branaugh; 10 Kent.

7 Yehudi Menuhin; 8 Henry James; 9 Kenneth 4 The Pope; 5 Malcolm Fraser; 6 Netherlands; Quiz: 1 Billy Bunter; 2 Cancer; 3 Nautical mile;

Last week's solutions:

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

45654321
9671178
95875

gives a mythical being,
gives a second mythical being,
gives a third mythical being.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
GUIDE TO HOME
BUYING AND
LETTING

Three-bed property presented to show home standard

Built in 2012 by Taylor Wimpey, 24 Penmire Grove, Rushall, Walsall, is presented to show home standard throughout.

It is for sale through Goodchilds at £180,000 with no chain.

In 'The Kingsford special' design, this home has accommodation set over two floors.

This briefly comprises an entrance hallway, a guest cloakroom, an upgraded fitted kitchen and a lounge/diner with French doors opening to the rear garden.

To the first floor are three bedrooms and the family bathroom.

The master bedroom has an en-suite shower room.

To the outside is an enclosed rear garden with a gate accessing the driveway and the detached single garage.

In addition the property benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and an alarm.

This home is located in a desirable modern development.

The selling agents are expecting a great deal of interest to be shown in the sale of this home.

In more detail the home is built to an attractive, modern design and is stylishly decorated. The entrance hall is tiled with an attractive turned spindle staircase off to the first floor.

The lounge/diner is nice and spacious and is carpeted and has French doors opening out to the rear garden's stoned patio/terrace area with lawn beyond. The garden is enclosed by panel fencing, having a gate to the rear.

Again spacious, the kitchen has a highly appealing and attractive range of modern wood-effect units with contemporary chrome handles, complementary working surfaces, floor tiling and upstands.

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Goodchilds Estate Agents

TEL: 01922 711444

EMAIL: bloxwich@goodchilds-uk.com



RUSHALL £180,000

KEY FEATURES

Taylor Wimpey build

Show home standard

Three bedrooms

Bathroom/en-suite/guest WC

Driveway & garage



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Auction

Thursday 2nd
August 2018
at 6pm Precisely

The Banks's Stadium, Bescot
Crescent, Walsall, West
Midlands. WS1 4SA

LOT 1

**Trees Road
Walsall**

21st July 10am



●Guide Price £80,000 PLUS

Located not far from Broadway, this well planned spacious semi detached property is in need of complete modernisation and improvement. Viewing is recommended to appreciate the tremendous scope on offer.

LOT 2

**Portsea Street
Walsall**

18th July 4:30pm, 21st July 11:45am



●Guide Price £55,000 PLUS

Set on a good size plot with substantial frontage, this traditionally styled semi detached property is in need of full modernisation and improvement. Benefiting from central heating and double glazing.

LOT 4

**Fordbrook Court
Walsall**

By appointment through the auctioneers



Situated in the heart of Walsall Town Centre this one bedroom first floor flat is in need of slight modernisation. This property would ideally be suited towards an investor

●Guide Price £38,500 PLUS

LOT 5

**Birmingham Road
Walsall**

By appointment through auctioneers



●Guide Price £240,000 PLUS

A truly substantial, late Victorian property offering spacious living accommodation, with a character and appeal seldom seen today. Occupying a most convenient situation with regular bus provision direct to Birmingham, together with ease of access on to all the regions motorways, the property will particularly suit the larger family or investment purchaser. The property has been well maintained by the current vendor, having recently installed Bathroom and Shower Room a recently refitted roof and newly installed gas boiler. The property affords gas central heating and demands viewing to appreciate the space and appeal within.

LOT 8

**Trysull Road
Wolverhampton**

24th July at 4.00 pm



This well appointed and maintained semi detached property offers well planned, gas centrally heated accommodation which also benefits from double glazing. Situated in a popular location within a short distance of Wolverhampton City Centre, the property would make an ideal investment. Set back behind a driveway with off street parking, side access leads to good size rear garden.

●Guide Price £85,000 PLUS

LOT 9

**Longwood Road
Aldridge**

19th July 11:15am



●Guide Price £275,000 PLUS

Situated in a popular semi rural location, on the outskirts of Aldridge this traditionally styled semi detached property, affords splendid views from the rear. With gas central heating and some double glazing the property is in need of modernisation and improvement.

LOT 10

**Parklands Gardens
Walsall**

By appointment through Auctioneers



Situated just off Birmingham Road in a sought after area, this Leasehold second floor flat is let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy dating back to October 2008 at a rent of £90.00 per week. Benefiting from double glazing, the flat has been well maintained and is sold with the benefit of a 999 year lease from September 1981.

●Guide Price £55,000 PLUS

LOT 14

**Lindens Drive
Streety**

19th July 10:30am



●Guide Price £200,000 PLUS

Situated in a popular residential area, this traditionally styled semi detached property, has been extended at ground floor level and offers well planned accommodation ideally suited to the needs of family. With gas central heating and double glazing.

LOT 15

**Waterloo Road
Yardley**

Tue 17th July 16:00



●Guide Price £95,000 PLUS

This Victorian end terraced property would make an ideal buy to let, situated in a good location just off the A45 Coventry Road. Offering good accommodation with larger than average rear Gardens, the property is in need of some improvement.

LOT 22

**Barns Lane
Rushall**

18th July 3:30pm, 21st July 10:45am



●Guide Price £120,000 PLUS

Although in need of some minor improvements, this substantial four bedroom mid terraced property would make an ideal purchase for the owner occupier or investor. Situated in a popular sought after residential area, the property is set back from the road behind a driveway with off street parking, whilst to the rear is a good size private rear garden.

LOT 24

**Circuit Close
Willenhall**

By appointment through Auctioneers



●Guide Price £40,000 PLUS

Purpose built first floor maisonette is an ideal investment opportunity and benefits from gas central heating and double glazing. Set on a small residential development.

●Guides are provided as an indication of each seller's minimum expectation. They are not necessarily figures which a property will sell for and may change at any time prior to the auction. Each property will be offered subject to a Reserve (a figure below which the Auctioneer cannot sell the property during the auction) which we expect will be set within the Guide Range or no more than 10% above a single figure Guide

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W: anchorestates.co.uk



Aldridge • Lichfield • Burntwood • Cannock • Sutton Coldfield

NEW

SOLD

Whetstone Lane
Aldridge

- Competitively Priced
- Extensive Garden
- E.P.C. - D

3 1

Price **£237,500**

Lichfield Road
Sandhills

- Traditional Detached Home
- Extended Accommodation
- E.P.C. - TBC

- Breakfast Kitchen, Utility & Wc
- Four Bedrooms & En-Suite
- Driveway & Garage

4 2

Price **£395,000**

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

NEW

SOLD

Herbert Road
Aldridge

- End Terrace Residence
- Popular Location
- E.P.C. - E

3 1

Price **£159,950**

NEW

Brickyard Road
Aldridge

- Luxury Modern Apartment
- Sought After Development
- E.P.C. - C

2 1

Price **£129,950**

Due to our success since re-launching our brand last year we are extending our introductory offer throughout 2018.

Anchor Estates and our dedicated team, have a dynamic forward thinking approach whilst staying true to our traditional values.

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£100,000	£1200 (inc vat)	£900 (inc vat)	£600 (inc vat)	50%
£150,000	£1800 (inc vat)	£1350 (inc vat)	£900 (inc vat)	50%
£200,000	£2400 (inc vat)	£1800 (inc vat)	£1200 (inc vat)	50%
£250,000	£3000 (inc vat)	£2250 (inc vat)	£1500 (inc vat)	50%
£300,000	£3600 (inc vat)	£2700 (inc vat)	£1800 (inc vat)	50%

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- Applicant Management
- Local Newspaper Adverts
- No Upfront Payments
- Local Solicitor Links
- In-house Mortgage Advice
- Telemarketing
- Social Media Marketing
- Property details circulated via post, email and text message

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* Compared to the average local estate agents fee

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NEW

Daw End Lane
Rushall

- Character Terraced Residence
- Popular Location
- E.P.C. - D

2 1

Price **£129,950**

SOLD

Berryfields
Aldridge

- Traditional Semi-Detached
- Sought After Location
- E.P.C. - D

3 1

Price **£249,950**

SOLD

Shire Oak Close
Walsall Wood

- Delightful Family Residence
- Versatile Accommodation
- E.P.C. - C

3 2

Price **£217,950**

NEW

Wood End Way (Off Branchal Road)
Aldridge

- Link-Detached Bungalow
- Sought After Location
- Generous Accommodation

2 1

Price **£229,950**

NEW

Regents Way
Sutton Coldfield

- Modern Detached Home
- Family Sized Accommodation
- EPC - D

4 2

Price **£400**

SOLD

Herbert Road
Aldridge

- End Terrace Residence
- Popular Location
- E.P.C. - TBC

3 1

Price **£164,950**

Pinfold Lane
Aldridge

- Stylish Barn Conversion
- Charming Character Building
- E.P.C. - E

- Period/Contemporary Features
- Delightful Accommodation
- Two Bedrooms

2 1

Price **£250,000**

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

SOLD

Crowberry Close
Clayhanger

- Modern Detached Home
- Sought After Corner Plot
- E.P.C. - D

4 2

Price **£279,950**

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27

The Chronicle Thursday, July 19, 2018

UPPER PENN



OIEO £650,000

GREAT HALL GROVE, W'TON

Five Bedroom Executive Detached, Lounge & Separate Study, Modern Fitted Kitchen/ Diner, Conservatory, Guest W.C, Family Bathroom, En-Suite to both Master & Bedroom 2, Office/ Den, Double Garage & Off Road Parking

COPPICE FARM



OIEO £300,000

BUTTERMERE GROVE, W'HALL

Extended Four Bed Detached, Lounge, Stunning "Wow Factor" Kitchen/ Diner, Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Playroom, Master With En-Suite, Modern Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & C/Heating

ESSINGTON



OIEO £285,000

LONG LANE, ESSINGTON

Extended Three Bed Detached, Generous Lounge/ Diner, Extended Kitchen/Diner, First Floor Family Shower Room, Part D/G & Full C/H, Secure Off Road Parking, Landscaped Rear Garden, Fantastic Location

BILSTON



OIEO £175,000

WILLENHALL RD, W'TON

Immaculate Three Bed Semi, Lounge, Dining Room, Open Plan Kitchen, Conservatory, Modern Refitted Shower Room, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Garage, Private Rear Garden, Block Paved Driveway

BENTLEY



OIEO £165,000

BENTLEY RD NORTH, WALSALL

Extended Four Bedroom Semi, Generous Lounge/ Diner, Extended Kitchen, C/Heating & D/Glazing, First Floor Shower Room, Loft Conversion, Generous Rear Garden, Driveway, Overlooking Bentley Pavillion

BLOXWICH



OIEO £138,000

BUXTON CLOSE, BLOXWICH

Extended Three Bed Mid Town House, Spacious Lounge, Extended Dining Room, Extended refitted Breakfast Kitchen, Refitted Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Private Rear Garden

STOW HEATH



OIEO £105,000

GOSPORT CLOSE, BILSTON

Semi Detached Bungalow, Two Double Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Private Rear Garden, Off Road Parking.

WOLVERHAMPTON



OIEO £100,000

MALPAS WALK, W'TON

Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Townhouse, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/ Diner, Family Bathroom, Guest WC, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Allocated Parking, Great FTB or BTL

BILSTON



OIEO £80,000

OXFORD STREET, BILSTON

Spacious Two Bed Ground Floor Apartment, Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom With Shower, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Shared Parking Facility, Bungalow Alternative

WEDNESFIELD



OIEO £75,000

MERRICK ROAD, WEDNESFIELD

One Bed First Floor Flat, Fully Refurbished, Refitted Modern Kitchen, Family Bathroom, C/ Heating & D/Glazing, Rear Garden

BENTLEY



70000

GRENVILLE CLOSE, WALSALL

One Bed First Flat Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, D/ Glazing, C/Heating & A Garage In A Separate Block. Ideal Investment Or FTB

WILLENHALL



£49,950

CIRCUIT CLOSE, WILLENHALL

one Bed First Floor Flat, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Good Sized Bathroom, Double Bedroom, Electric Heating & UPVC D/ Glazing, A Great FTB Or BTL

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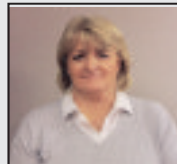


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Paul Marrion - Partner



Kathy Marrion - Partner

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Energy Rating - B

NEW

Woodcroft Court Walsall

- Penthouse Style 2nd floor apartment
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Spacious lounge with kitchen area off
- 4 Double bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Communal gardens
- Viewing Highly Recommended

£69,950



Energy Rating - E

NEW

Cotswold Grove Willenhall

- Ground floor maisonette
- Lounge,
- Kitchen
- Over 55's only
- 2 bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Must be viewed

£99,950



Energy Rating - D

NEW

Kenilworth Crescent Walsall

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Kitchen, Lounge
- 2 bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Parking and garden
- NO ONWARD CHAIN

£130,000



Energy Rating - D

NEW

Swynnerton Drive Essington

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining kitchen
- Conservatory
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Driveway and space to the side

£170,000



Energy Rating - C

NEW

Stamping Way Bloxwich

- Three storey end town house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, Kitchen /Diner,
- 4 Double Bedrooms,
- En-suite/Jack & Jill Shower Room
- Single Garage, Driveway
- No onward chain

£190,000



Energy Rating - D

NEW

Woden Avenue Wednesfield

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 2 reception rooms,
- Kitchen / Family Room
- 4 Bedrooms
- Tandem garage
- driveway, gardens

£200,000



Energy Rating - D

NEW

Vernon Close Essington

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen
- 4 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Integral Garage
- Long Driveway
- Mature Rear Garden

£280,000



Energy Rating - D

NEW

Thornbury Road Walsall

- Detached House
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining room,
- Conservatory, kitchen
- 4 Bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Garage, drive, gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN

£294,995



Energy Rating - D

NEW

Baytree Close Bloxwich

- Detached Bungalow
- Refurbished to high standard
- Gas Centrally Heated & PVCu Double Glazed
- Lounge, Family Room
- PVI Width Kitchen/Diner
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom/wc with separate Shower Cubicle
- Garage, Driveway

£320,000



Energy Rating - C

To Let

Penny Court Great Wyrley

- First Floor Flat
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Master Bedroom
- Shower Room/WC
- Parking and Grounds
- SORRY NO DSS, PETS OR SMOKERS
- Available now
- 180 reference fee applies

£425



Energy Rating - C

To Let

Victoria Avenue Bloxwich

- Newly refurbished Semi-Detached House
- PVCu Double Glazed and Gas Centrally Heated
- Front Lounge, Rear Kitchen
- Down Stairs WC
- Three Bedrooms
- Newly Re-Fitted Bathroom
- Gravelled Driveway
- Low Maintenance Rear Garden

£565



Energy Rating - TBC

TO LET

Buxton Road Bloxwich

- Immaculately presented
- End Town House
- PVCu Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating
- Lounge, Dining Room,
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- PVCu Double Glazed Conservatory,
- 2 Double Bedrooms,
- Shower Room/WC

£575



Energy Rating - D

TO LET

Kenton Avenue Wolverhampton

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining kitchen
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Driveway and Gardens
- SORRY NO DSS, PETS OR SMOKERS
- £180 reference fee applies

£650



Energy Rating - D

Church View Walsall

- Modern End Town House
- Gas centrally heated
- Double glazed
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, fitted kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms,
- Bathroom/WC,
- Potential to Extend
- Driveway and gardens

£120,000



Energy Rating - D

Roebuck Road Walsall

- Mid terrace house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining room
- Fitted kitchen
- 3 bedrooms
- Shower room/WC
- Driveway and garden

£125,000



Energy Rating - D

Selsdon Road Bloxwich

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen, conservatory
- 2 Bedrooms
- shower room/WC
- Garage, carport
- Driveway, gardens

£189,950



Energy Rating - D

Pine Close Great Wyrley

- Link detached bungalow
- Gas centrally heated
- Double glazing
- Kitchen, lounge
- 2 Double bedrooms
- Shower room/WC
- Single car garage
- Driveway, gardens

£230,000



Energy Rating - E

Willow Grove Essington

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining room
- Farmhouse Style Kitchen
- 3 bedrooms
- Large Conservatory
- Driveway and gardens

£239,950



Energy Rating - E

Stafford Road Great Wyrley

- Traditional Cottage style detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 2 reception rooms
- Farmhouse kitchen
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Driveway, garden
- Outbuildings

£250,000



Energy Rating - D

Carrick Close Pelsall

- Open views to front
- Extended Semi-Detached Family Home
- PVCu Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Three Reception Rooms
- Downstairs Shower Room
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- Large Tandem Garage

£250,000



Energy Rating - E

Stafford Road Great Wyrley

- Deceptively Spacious Detached Bungalow
- Gas Central Heating, PVCu Double Glazing
- 2 Bedrooms
- Rear Lounge, Sun Lounge/Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Modern Bathroom/WC
- Side Attached Garage
- Large Landscaped Gardens

£289,950



Energy Rating - TBC

Hall Lane Pelsall

- Detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- Double glazed
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen
- 4 bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Garage
- Driveway and gardens

£350,000



Energy Rating - D

Station Road Walsall

- Individually Designed Detached Family Home.
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- 4 Bedroom (Master with en-suite)
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen, Utility
- Study / 5th Bedroom
- Garage & Driveway
- Rear Garden

£375,000



Energy Rating - E

Nest Common, Pelsall

- Detached Family Home
- 4 Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heated & Double Glazed
- Through Lounge, Rear Study
- Breakfast Kitchen, Utility/Guestcloaks/WC
- Large Family Bathroom
- Additional Loft Room, 2 Garages
- Planning Consent Granted

£499,999



Energy Rating - D

Paddock Gardens Walsall

- Modern Detached Family Home
- Three Reception Rooms
- Kitchen, 5 Bedrooms
- (Master and Second with en suites)
- Family Bathroom
- Double Garage
- Driveway
- Large Rear Garden

£600,000

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Par Court, Sanstone Road, Bloxwich

Offers in the Region Of £429,950



	2		5
	3	EPC	B

Woodside Close, Off Skip Lane, Walsall

Auction Guide Price £300,000



	2		3
	1	EPC	D

Harvest Grove, Bloxwich, Walsall

Offers in the Region Of £245,000



	2		4
	2	EPC	B

Hinges Road, Bloxwich, Walsall

Offers £297,500



	2		4
	2	EPC	C

Enderley Drive, Bloxwich

£260,000



	2		2
	1	EPC	TBC

Farbrook Way, Summer Hayes, Willenhall

£240,000



	1		2/3
	1	EPC	D

New Forest Road, Walsall

Offers Over £160,000



	1		3
	1	EPC	C

Kewstoke Road, Sneyd Park, Willenhall

Offers £150,000



	1		2
	1	EPC	TBC

Huntington Road, New Invention

Offers £135,000



	1		3
	1	EPC	TBC

Wrexham Avenue, Bentley, Walsall

Offers £135,000



	1		3
	1	EPC	D

Chatsworth Close, Willenhall

Offers £125,000



	1		2
	1	EPC	D

Farmbridge Close, Bentley, Walsall

Offers over £100,000



	1		3
	1	EPC	D

Stafford Road, Bloxwich

Offers £350,000



	2		4
	2	EPC	E

The Hayes, Summer Hayes, Willenhall

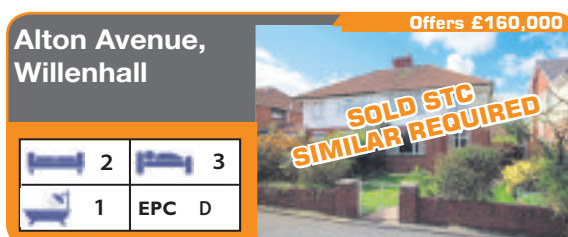
£190,000



	1		3
	1	EPC	D

Alton Avenue, Willenhall

Offers £160,000



	2		3
	1	EPC	D

Leven Drive, Coppice Farm Willenhall

Offers £140,000



	1		2
	1	EPC	C

Ryle Street, Blakenall

Offers £115,000



	1		3
	1	EPC	E

Basalt Close, Reedswood

Offers £105,000



	1		2
	1	EPC	D



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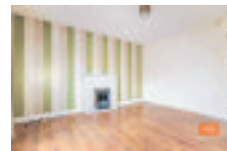


Hollybank Avenue, Willenhall,
• Semi-detached house
• Two bedroom
• Located in a cul-de-sac
• Gas central heating
• Driveway and single garage
• EPC-TBA

£650 PCM



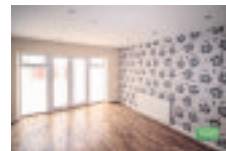
Wetherby Road, Bloxwich
• TURNBERRY ESTATE
• Three Bedroom Terrace
• Double Glazing
• Gas Central Heating
• En-Suite Shower Room
• EPC-TBA



£650 PCM



Wood Lane, Willenhall
• Three Bedroom Townhouse
• Double Glazing
• Gas Central Heating
• Front and Rear Gardens
• Off Road Parking
• EPC-83



£695 PCM



Turnstone Road, Walsall
• Stunning Part Furnished
• Former Show Home
• Three Bedroom Town House
• Double Glazing
• Gas Central Heating
• EPC-TBA

£825 PCM



Broadway North, Walsall
• Over 60 Retirement Apartment
• New Build
• Ground Floor
• One Bedroom
• Walk in Shower Room
• Communal Lounge

£850 PCM



Woodall Street, Bloxwich
• Four Bedroom
• Fitted Kitchen
• Lounge with French Doors
• Conservatory
• Garden with side gate access
• EPC-76



£750 PCM



Green Lane, Leamore, Walsall
• Terraced property
• Three Bedroom
• Double Glazing
• Gas Central Heating
• Front Reception Room
• EPC-TBA



£550 PCM



Parker Street, Bloxwich
• End of terrace property
• Three bedrooms
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Sorry No DHSS
• EPC-55



£550 PCM



Walker Road, Bloxwich
• Two Bedroom
• 1st Floor Apartment
• Open Plan Lounge & Kitchen
• Family Bathroom
• Shower over Bath
• EPC-78

£475 PCM



Gallery Square, Walsall
• Third Floor Apartment
• Two Bedroom
• Walsall Town Centre
• Electric Heating
• Communal Entrance and Lift
• EPC-TBA



£525 PCM



Usk Close, Bloxwich
• Terrace property
• Two Bedroom
• Electric Heating
• Double Glazing
• Kitchen with appliances
• EPC-60



£495 PCM



Walker Road
• Ground Floor Apartment
• Modern Two Bedroom
• Gas Central Heating
• Double Glazing
• Allocated off Road Parking
• EPC-TBA



£475 PCM

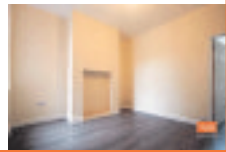


Argyll Court, Willenhall
• One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
• Lounge
• Fitted Kitchen
• Large bedroom
• Bathroom with Shower
• EPC 81

£450 PCM



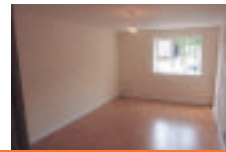
Prince Street, Walsall
• Mid-Terrace Property
• Three Bedroom
• Double Glazing
• Gas Central Heating
• DHSS Accepted
• EPC-63



£475 PCM



Marton Court, Bloxwich
• Two Bedroom Apartment
• Fully Fitted Kitchen
• Off Road Parking
• Electric Heating
• Secured Entrance
• EPC-TBA



£450 PCM



Regent House, Green Lane,
• Two Bed Apartment
• 5th Floor
• Lounge with Balcony
• Kitchen
• Double Glazing
• EPC-83



£450 PCM



Market Place, Willenhall
• One Bedroom Flat
• Above Retail Premises
• Town Centre Location
• Close to Transport Links
• Deceptively Spacious
• Rating-47

£400 PCM



Crosby Close, Wolverhampton
• One Bedroom Maisonette
• Double Glazing
• Gas Central Heating
• Entrance Stairs/Hall
• Shower over bath
• EPC-TBA



£375 PCM



Lichfield Road, Rushall
• One Bedroom Flat
• Above Retail Premises
• Lounge
• Kitchen
• DHSS Accepted
• EPC-10



£350 PCM



Broad Lane, Bloxwich
• One Bedroom First
• First Floor Maisonette
• UPVC windows
• Shared Rear Garden
• DHSS Accepted
• EPC-32

£350 PCM

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Revised Fabia adds whole lot more

By James Parker

Škoda has announced the new range line-up, specifications and RRP pricing for the facelifted Fabia. Order books for the updated supermini are open now, with first deliveries expected in September. With a new, all-petrol engine range, boosted equipment levels, new safety systems and an even sharper look, the facelifted Fabia is set to raise sector standards once again.

The range will feature five familiar trim levels; S, SE, SE L, Monte Carlo and Colour Edition, and as with the current model, it will be available in hatch and estate forms. RRP prices range from £11,160 for the entry-level 1.0 MPI S hatch model to £17,950 for the 1.0 TSI 110 DSG SE L estate.

The new all-petrol engine range features state-of-the-art three-cylinder power units. Two MPI engines feature indirect injection and produce outputs of 60PS and 75PS respectively, while the two TSI engines are packed with advanced engineering, including turbocharging and direct petrol injection, enabling them to generate 95PS and 110PS. Both TSI engines are fitted with a petrol particulate filter. The most powerful of the quartet of engines can be matched with a seven-speed DSG gearbox as an option.

High equipment levels have been one of the Fabia's core strengths since its first appearance in 1999. The new facelifted model continues the Škoda tradition with exceptionally generous equipment lists across the range. LED daytime running lights are now standard across the range, while Front assist and a Multifunction trip computer are included on all models for the first time.

SE models gain front fog lights and 15-inch Cygnus alloy wheels over the outgoing model, along with Radio Swing Plus and auto up/down function for the electric windows. Colour Edition models gain 16-inch Vigo alloy wheels in white, silver or black.

Customers opting for the SE L benefit from an even more significant equipment boost over the previous model. All Fabia SE L models now feature Amundsen satellite navigation, Infotainment online (for one year), lighting in the front centre console and 16-inch Evora alloy wheels. These items are in addition to the Fabia SE L's already comprehensive specification list.

The ever-popular Fabia Monte Carlo further enhances its reputation for sportiness with a range of new features. These include climate control air conditioning, LED rear lights, rear electric windows and new seat upholstery. The styling package includes a black front spoiler, black roof, black floor mats and carbon-effect dashboard trim.

A new range of options has also been introduced – allowing owners to perfectly tailor their Fabia. Included for the first time are LED headlights (£960 RRP), 18-inch Vega alloy wheels (Monte Carlo Hatch only £600 RRP) and Blind spot detection and rear traffic alert (£390 RRP).

The new Blind spot detection feature alerts the driver to the presence of vehicles in the blind spot or approaching rapidly from behind when driving on multi-lane highways. The Rear Traffic Alert system monitors what is going on behind the vehicle and warns of a risk of collision when reversing.

Of course, no new Škoda would be complete without additional Simply Clever



Order books are now open for the updated Fabia supermini with deliveries expected in September

features. In addition to the existing Simply Clever elements, the ice scraper concealed in the fuel filler flap now incorporates a gauge for measuring the tyre tread depth.

And it's not just the equipment levels that have been improved. The Fabia's award-winning design has been given a subtle update. Building on the distinctive looks of the outgoing model, new LED daytime running lights instantly make the car more

noticeable on the road. The revised bonnet and grille combine to give the Fabia a sleeker appearance, finished by the narrower headlights. At the back, the design of the rear bumper is refined with added reflectors increasing the car's visibility - especially at night.

The Fabia has been a mainstay of Škoda's range since its introduction 19 years ago with more than four million examples having rolled

off the production line. The third-generation supermini was launched in 2014 and has already clocked up more than half a million sales worldwide – making it the brand's top seller in Europe and second-biggest here in the UK.

It's also proved rather popular with the motoring media, racking up a host of industry awards – including What Car? Car of the Year in 2014.



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Solutions Personal Contract Plan[#] Representative Example for: ŠKODA CITIGO 5DR 1.0MPI COLOUR EDITION subject to a 48 month, 5,000 miles per annum agreement.

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OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	OPTION TO PURCHASE FEE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE BY CUSTOMER	TOTAL AMOUNT OF CREDIT	REPRESENTATIVE APR	RATE OF INTEREST	EXCESS MILEAGE
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With Solutions Personal Contract Plan. 185+*. Monthly payment based on ŠKODA CITIGO 5DR 1.0MPI Colour Edition at £10,400 OTR on a 48-month, 20,000-mile agreement. Subject to availability and status. T&Cs apply. Offer available when ordered when ordered by 31 May 2018 from participating retailers. *Service plan covers first two consecutive services limited to 1 x Oil and 1 x Oil Inspection service. Available to first five customers to purchase above named vehicle at Autosales ŠKODA only. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at time of publication. Freepost ŠKODA Financial Services.

Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA CITIGO range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 51.4 (5.5) to 57.7 (4.9); Extra Urban 72.4 (3.9) to 76.4 (3.7); Combined 64.2 (4.4) to 68.9 (4.1). CO₂ emissions for the ŠKODA CITIGO range are 103 to 96 g/km. Standard EU test figures are for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.



This unit is only available on the top-end GT-Line and GT-Line S trims

New turbocharged engine joins the Kia Picanto range

By James Parker

Kia has now added a turbocharged engine to its Picanto line-up, completing the range which was updated in 2017. The new 1.0-litre powerplant produces 99bhp and 171Nm of torque — making it the most powerful Picanto to date.

The new engine is available as an upgrade for cars in GT-Line and GT-Line S trims, and sits above the existing naturally aspirated engines — a 1.0-litre three-cylinder and 1.25-litre four-cylinder with 67bhp and 84bhp respectively.

The new engine is capable of 0-60mph in 9.8 seconds and has a top speed of 112mph. That's just on par with the 89bhp Volkswagen up! TSI, but the 109bhp Renault Twingo GT tops it by a few tenths. The Picanto is capable of returning impressive fuel economy figures though — with a combined figure of 55.4mpg and CO2 emissions of 117g/km. It's fully compliant with Euro 6d emissions regulations, too.

This fresh unit does come at a price, as it's only available on the top-end GT-Line and GT-Line S trims. Both add dynamic details to the Picanto, including a sports body kit, red highlights on the grille, air intakes and side sills, a rear diffuser and twin exhaust pipes.

S models add in extra luxury in the form of an electric sunroof, climate control, heated front seats, a wireless phone charger and sat-nav with TomTom connected services.



The new engine is only available as an upgrade

In the best Kia tradition, the Picanto comes with an industry-leading seven-year warranty, compared with just three years on most rivals.

The GT-Line model equipped with the new engine starts at £13,320, while GT-Line S models come in from £14,720. The challenge for the Picanto is that this price puts it in line with the significantly more powerful Volkswagen up! GTI, which starts from £13,255.

● Kia Motors (UK) Ltd. has been awarded 'Company of the Last 30 Years' at the annual Auto Express New Car Awards. This is a special accolade, part of a group of awards celebrating not only the best in the industry, but also Auto Express' 30th anniversary.

Since arriving in the UK in 1991, with one model in the line-up, Kia has evolved to become one of the biggest-selling automotive brands in the UK, offering a line-up of 21 models available across its 192-strong dealer network. With the recent launch of the ground-breaking all-new Stinger, the fastest-accelerating model in Kia's history as well as an upcoming update to the UK and global best-seller, the Sportage, perceptions of the Kia brand has been altered to many.

Collecting the award, Paul Philpott, president and CEO of Kia Motors (UK) Ltd, said: "It is an honour to be presented with this award — it is a real testament to how far the brand has come since arriving in the UK. We are very proud of our product line-up and are looking forward to the brand's continued growth and even more exciting things to come in the future."

Steve Fowler, editor-in-chief at Auto Express, commented: "In less than 30 years, Kia's product range has grown from the cheap and cheerful Pride supermini, sold through an importer, to encompass fabulous SUVs, and a sports saloon that has rattled the premium establishment. Owners love their Kias: two featured in the top ten models in this year's Driver Power survey, and the Niro was rated best small SUV to own."

Kia was also recognised in three additional categories, with Picanto being commended in the City Car of the Year category. Making it onto the shortlist nominations was the Sorento for Large SUV of the Year and the all-new Stinger, Kia's first grand turismo, for Compact Executive Car of the Year.

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£1250 | **£195**
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With £1500 Deposit Contribution*



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Smile into the sunset in sunny Swift

By Carmel Stewart

If your idea of a fun drive is rev it up, release the handbrake and off you go, then the new Swift Sport is probably not the car for you.

Neatly packaged with some great exterior colours, the newest car in the excellent Suzuki line-up is lower, wider and lighter than the model it replaces and has a new engine, ie new to this car – which adds a fraction more bhp to the mix and a hefty 44 per cent more torque.

This same ‘Boosterjet’ engine is strutting its stuff under the bonnets of the Vitara and the S-Cross.

Precise

It is also a car which has to be worked a little to extract the best from its 1.4litre four-cylinder 140ps turbocharged petrol power pack via the precise six-speed manual box.

Point and shoot is fine for the A to B but give it a push and you’ll be in the X to Z zone and laughing, or at least smiling, all the way into the sunset.

Behind that sporty steering wheel, sitting snugly in the (very) grippy sports seats, the Swift Sport proved immediately agile, comfortable and composed, requiring no time at all to adjust to any vagaries – there were none.

In town centres it was readily manoeuvrable and unflustered, while on the open road a touch of acceleration and a quick shift of the gears sent it into fun mode.

Responsive steering and a well set-up suspension added to the finely balanced experience.



Neatly packaged with great colours

And don’t be deterred by the figures. Nought to 62mph in 8.1 seconds and a top speed of 130mph may not sound all that exciting but that is only part of the story. To experience the real thing, you need to get behind the wheel.

Suzuki has made the buying process very easy – one engine, one interior, six colours, no options, one price – £17,999.

The sporty interior is very comfortable and user friendly with metal pedals and red accents, plus six airbags, DAB radio, LED daytime running lights, Bluetooth, smartphone connectivity, rear view camera, front fog lamps, navigation, 17-inch alloys, all-round electric windows, lane departure warning, adaptive cruise control and high beam assist all fitted as standard.

The five body colours, whether metallic or solid, are included in the price, with Champion Yellow, which harks back to the Suzuki Works



The Swift Sport proved immediately agile, comfortable and composed

Junior Rally Car, expected to be top choice for many. Hi-tech features include autonomous braking whereby laser sensors and a monocular camera determine when a collision is imminent. An alarm sounds and, if the driver

fails to take action, the brakes are deployed in stages. There is also a drowsiness alert which will sound a buzzer and flash lights should the vehicle start weaving at speeds of more than 37mph – lane dodgers beware.

For those who like to know just how speedy they really are, Suzuki has included an information graphic on the dash displaying the turbo boost, engine output, torque data and G-force tracking.



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XC90 D5 R-Design a classy all-rounder

By Jack Evans

The XC90 has always led the charge when it comes to classy, seven-seater cars. Luxurious yet understated, it's a solid contender against the likes of the Land Rover Discovery and BMW X5. It's also packing as much safety technology as you'll find on a car on sale today, which makes it a key family car-segment option.

We're testing it here in diesel-powered D5 set-up, which is in fact the lowest-powered option in the range – sitting underneath a turbo petrol and a twin-engine plug-in hybrid.

There's plenty going on inside the new XC90. The amount of safety system fitted to it is impressive, with features such as the city safety pack – which includes pedestrian, cyclist and large animal detection systems – combining with pilot assist and adaptive cruise control to make it a very safe way of getting around.

Our test XC90 uses, as mentioned, Volvo's D5 powertrain. This sees a 2.0-litre, four-cylinder diesel engine plonked under the bonnet, linked to all four wheels via an eight-speed automatic gearbox. Economy figures are good, with Volvo claiming 49.6mpg on the combined cycle, and emissions of 149g/km.

You may ask why Volvo hasn't decided to fit the XC90 with silky six-cylinder as is de rigeur with large, luxurious SUVs – but the Swedish manufacturer is committed to, slowly but surely, reducing the amount of diesels in its range and replacing them with ultra-efficient yet powerful petrols and hybrids. In fact, the new S60 saloon won't be offered with a diesel option at all, which shows just how committed Volvo is to this change in powertrain adoption.

The XC90 is everything you want a large,



Overall it is an exceptionally good cabin

seven-seater SUV to be; comfortable, refined and predictable. The steering is light, but not overly so, and the engine provides more than enough punch to get you up to speed in a smart fashion.

The gearbox is smooth shifting and there isn't too much road or wind noise – and all of these factors combine to make it quite a relaxing car to drive. A good amount of forward visibility helps improve your overall perception of the road ahead, too.

Volvo has done well to make the ride into a decent compromise, balancing comfort with support – the big Volvo doesn't lean too much in the corners, but it manages to absorb the vast majority of road imperfections too.

The XC90 was one of the first Volvo vehicles to debut the brand's new design language, and it's as eye-catching as it is classy. The recognisable 'Thor's Hammer' headlights have now been applied to all of the cars in the Swedish manufacturer's range, but they look just as special on the XC90 too. Whereas other large SUVs trade on big alloys, chunky



The Volvo has well-judged proportions and muted, yet stylish exterior colours

side skirts and quad exhausts, the Volvo combats this with well-judged proportions and muted, yet stylish exterior colours. The colours available change depending on specification.

The cabin of the XC90 matches the understated look of the exterior. Everything is well made and feels solid to the touch, with plenty of high-quality materials contributing to an overall exceptionally good cabin. The large central touchscreen dominates the interior of the car, and clears up the need to have a myriad of buttons for various different controls.

Volvo hasn't chucked all of the physical

controls in the bin, however; you still get a rotary dial for the volume – which is a clever move, as touchscreen controls for audio functions have been a sticking point for many in-car systems.

There's plenty of space for all seven occupants too. Even the third and final row offers up more than enough room for most, though having these in place does impact the car's boot space considerably.

Our test car came in sporty R-Design specification, and comes with all manner of standard equipment including heated and electric powered front seats, that huge central touchscreen and adaptive cruise control with

distance alert, though it's worth pointing out that the XC90 is not a cheap car – our test vehicle, fitted with a smattering of options such as a 360-degree parking camera and a panoramic sunroof, came in at £62,030 – which is a lot of money.

The XC90 is a solid all-rounder and, though now more expensive than ever, features everything you could want from a seven-seater luxury SUV. It drives well, and is incredibly comfortable over longer journeys while also being just on the right side of firmness for UK cars. There are rivals in the market, but for now the big Volvo remains firmly at the top – and will take some beating.

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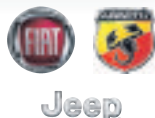
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**9
Local
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LICENSING ACT 2003**
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----------	--

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The Application Record and Register may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address.

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Walsall Council, Planning, Engineering and Transportation Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planning@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning, Engineering and Transportation, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Deadline for comments on or before: 2nd August 2018

APP NO: 18/0841 BY: McDonald's Restaurants Ltd FOR: SECTION 73 TO VARY CONDITION 20B OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS 17/0653 AND 17/1524 TO VARY PARKING RESTRICTIONS. AT: VACANT LAND OPPOSITE TESCO'S, LITTLETON STREET WEST, WALSALL, WS2 8EQ

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APP NO: 18/0753 BY: ASDA Stores Ltd FOR: DEMOLISH VACANT PUBLIC HOUSE IN A CONSERVATION AREA. AT: FORMER KINGS ARMS, 156 HIGH STREET, WALSALL, WS3 3JR

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Bhylls Acre School were runners-up in the competition behind Stowheath



Bunkered – Palmers Cross School pupils during the Wolverhampton Primary Tri Golf Festival



Youngsters from St Thomas's Primary putt their skills to the test



Rylan Povey, aged 11, and Maddison Mitchel, 12

Stowheath leave school rivals green with envy

SPORTING FEATURE

By Nick Elwell

"We are keen to introduce youngsters to the sport and James will be holding some summer camps during the holidays."

STOWHEATH Primary School are top of the class when it comes to golf.

Youngsters from the school claimed victory in the Wolverhampton Primary Tri Golf Festival, held at Penn Golf Club.

The popular annual event continues to go from strength to strength with 30 schools from the city taking part in the qualifying rounds. Six schools – Stowheath, St Thomas C of E, St Andrews C of E, Palmers Cross, Bhylls Acre, and Rakegate – battled their way through to the final shootout for glory.

And it was Stowheath who came out on top with Bhylls Acre claiming the runners-up spot and St Andrews C of E completing the top three.

It meant the trio of schools were able to go on to represent Wolverhampton at the Black Country Games.

Enjoyed

Partnerships and Schools Sports (PASS) worked with Penn Golf Club to stage the final, with the host club deeming it a huge success.

"There were 66 pupils from six schools taking part and they all seemed to have enjoyed the day," said Penn GC secretary Mick Woodhouse.

"They were from the schools that had won the various festivals that were held during the spring term in secondary schools across Wolverhampton."

"There were six different events featuring various challenges for the youngsters. We closed down the



St Andrews C of E School youngsters



Rakegate Primary were among those taking part

first and second holes and also used the putting green. "And there was a bunker challenge which they all enjoyed. It was a great day and it ended with our lady captain, Angela Hughes, and club professional, James Wright, presenting the prizes."

Penn are pro-active when it comes to encouraging junior participation and Woodhouse is hoping the event will help produce golfers of the future.

"It's great to see youngsters getting an introduction to the sport," he said.

"This was probably the first time some of them had played on a golf course."

"There were several parents there supporting their children and from the club's point of view it would be great if a few of the youngsters took up the sport and joined our junior section."

"We are keen to introduce youngsters to the sport

and James will be holding some summer camps during the holidays.

"We have managed to obtain some funding from the golf foundation to help with the cost."

As well as the primary school participants, there were also a number of secondary school students from Our Lady and St Chads on hand to ensure the event ran smoothly.

Rebecca Gingell, school games organiser/director of specialism at Our Lady & St Chad Catholic Academy, said: "Pupils from Our Lady and St Chad Academy officiated and led the year four pupils through all the activities."

"It was a great day, providing young people with the opportunity to play golf on a real golf course and start on the club pathway. A big thank you to the club and OLSC for the support and delivery of the day."

Boss Moore's merry over Scottish trip

ALBION boss Darren Moore says his side have taken plenty of positives from their pre-season trip to Scotland.

The Baggies have been ramping up their preparations for the 2018/19 campaign by taking part in a gruelling training camp at St Andrew's University.

Those put through their paces included new goalkeeper Sam Johnstone as well as James Morrison, who is battling to prove his fitness and earn a new deal.

And Moore said he was pleased with the progress his players made. "In terms of the group moving to the next stage of our preparations, I couldn't be more satisfied," the boss said.

"The group have applied themselves really, really well."

"We're seeing good signs developing within the group," he added. "The application from the players has been magnificent in terms of their going about their work and achieving here what we set out to do."

Golf day in memory of late, great Cyrille

AN Albion supporters' club is holding a golf day in memory of Cyrille Regis that will be attended by his widow Julia.

Alan Jones-Bratt, founder of the West Bromwich Albion Supporters' Golf Club, has organised the Cyrille Regis Memorial Golf Day at Sandwell Park Golf Club for Friday, August 17.

As well as honouring Regis's memory, any money raised will be donated to the family. Julia has agreed to play a round and will be entering a team of four. She said: "It's wonderful they want to honour Cyrille's legacy by dedicating the day to his memory."

Former Albion and Villa boss Ron Atkinson and ex-Villa player Steve Staunton could also play. Jones-Bratt is looking for sponsors and players keen to join in.

Julia is also planning to organise her own golf day to remember Cyrille at a later date. To play in, or to sponsor the memorial golf day, call 07786708362. The closing date for entries is August 3.

Diffusion are spot on to net national spoils

DIFFUSION FC Veterans defied the heatwave and a stern test to put their rivals on the spot in a national competition.

The Wolverhampton side overcame a Walthamstow-based Interwood side featuring Barry Hayles and Leon Constantine to be crowned as Over-40s national champions on penalties.

The shoot-out success in three national final at Lilleshall followed a 1-1 draw in normal time. Paul Whyte had equalised for Diffusion.

"It was a really hot day and we were up against a very good and physical side, but the game was played in a great atmosphere," said Diffusion player-manager Andrew Sperling.

Successful penalty takers for Diffusion were former professionals Dean Bennett and Jake Sedgemore, captain and man-of-the-match Rob Perks, and Whyte.

"There were 22 very tired players coming off at the end in such hot conditions, but we went off and had a couple of beers to celebrate," said Sperling.



SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

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Walsall slide goes on with a losing draw

WALSALL continue to sink towards the lower regions of the Birmingham League Premier table following a losing draw against Kenilworth Wardens who closed on 285-8 at Gorway.

Robin De Regt hit 87 and Prerak Manakad smashed 71 from 43 balls as a tiring Walsall attack was put to the sword.

In reply, opener Danny Cox (43) started well but Walsall faded to 162 for eight after 55 overs with Matt Hancock taking 3-32.

Streety beat Penkridge by five runs, in a low-scoring Division Two match at Pillaton.

Streety were restricted to 132 all out after a fine opening spell from Aqab Ahmed (5-40) with Sangar Mangalorkar scoring 44 for the visitors.

He then proved to be Penkridge's nemesis with the ball, finishing with 5-38 as they were dismissed for 127.

Steve Hinton took 3-39, as he and Mangalorkar reduced Penkridge to 90-8 but an unbeaten 42 from Ishaq Mohammed, almost, won the day for the home side.

Pelsall's total of 292-9 against Redditch in Division Three came after an opening stand of 77 between Tom Boyd (40) and Alex Jones (30).

Todd Henderson added 91, while Waqas Ali took 4-77 for Redditch.

Openers Tom Field (57) and Rizwan Chaudhry (40) put on 79, and Timothy Fitch added 40, to take Redditch to 132-2.

But they proceeded to lose wickets at regular intervals to Boyd (4-36) before hanging on to finish on 229-9 after an unbeaten last wicket partnership of 26.

Tom windfall hope as Millwall eye star

WALSALL look set to receive a cash windfall with former striker Tom Bradshaw closing in on a move to Millwall.

The Welsh international left the Saddlers for Barnsley in 2006 for a fee in the region of £600,000. But the Saddlers inserted a clause into the deal that would see them net a percentage of any profit if the Tykes went on to sell him.

Barnsley insisted on a confidentiality clause when negotiating the transfer to keep that percentage undisclosed.

It is likely to be in the region of 20 per cent though, with Millwall understood to have put together an £800,000 offer for Bradshaw that could rise to £1.1 million with add-ons. The Lions are reported to be in advanced talks with the forward, who is keen on returning to the Championship following Barnsley's relegation.

And after they missed out on a place in the play-offs by three points last year, boss Neil Harris will hope Bradshaw's goals can prove the difference.

Elsewhere, ex-Saddler Reece Flanagan is on trial with Tranmere. After coming through the youth ranks at the Banks's, the midfielder was released in May.

Khalsa have grounds for optimism



Sporting Khalsa's new stand

THINGS are shaping up very nicely on and off the pitch at Sporting Khalsa.

The Willenhall side have laid a fresh 3G surface at the Aspray Arena and a 320-seater stand has been unveiled. Several new players have also been snapped up.

Treasurer Inder Grewal said: "The 3G pitch is in place and you can play on that all year round. We've had new stand on the right-hand side

as you come into the ground, and a bit of a hospitality area for away teams.

"We've had new changing rooms for home and away put in, a new referee's room and a manager office."

Khalsa had a 2,000 crowd for an 2015 FA Cup fourth qualifying round tie against FC United of Manchester and Grewal says work was done to make sure if such an occasion comes around again, everything should run

smoothly. "We wanted to make sure that if those big games come around again, we have the infrastructure to deal with it properly," he said.

Khalsa have signed striker Tony Clarke from Walsall Wood, goalkeeper Dale Reaney from Wolverhampton Sporting and former Stourport Swifts skipper Alex Perry, along with midfielders Rico Taylor and Garfield Robinson and keeper Ryan Pratt, 16.

KORY DOUBLE BREAK BLOW

WALSALL'S Kory Roberts looks set to miss the entire 2018-19 campaign after it was confirmed he has suffered a double leg break.

The defender broke the fibula and tibia bones in a collision with Ryan Sweeney as the Saddlers took on Stoke in a pre-season friendly on Saturday.

Roberts received oxygen treatment on the pitch and was taken to hospital where he was visited by manager Dean Keates and striker Amadou Bakayoko.

Speaking after the game, Keates said the injury would likely rule the 20-year-old out for the season. And club physio Marc Czuczman - who followed Roberts to hospital - has confirmed the injury is as bad as first feared.

He said: "The x-ray confirmed a double fracture, both tibia and fibula.

Involved

"Kory handled the whole situation amazingly and, despite being uncomfortable, was in good spirits at the hospital.

"He always has a smile on his face and even in this situation was still laughing despite all that was going on around him.

"I just want to thank everyone involved for what was a successful and controlled evacuation from the pitch.

"The Stoke City staff were amazingly generous with their assistance and expertise.

"Our paramedic Gemma from WMAS (West Midlands Ambulance Service) was on hand with the oxygen and pain relief.

"The stretcher bearer team were stable and controlled as ever and the SJA (St John Ambulance) team mobilised their ambulance and transferred him to hospital. Great team effort."

Boss Keates admitted he'd been delighted with the defender prior to the injury.

"He had been outstanding," he added.

"He had done really well. There were bits and



Kory Roberts is stretchered off in the friendly defeat to Stoke City at the Banks's Stadium

pieces to work on because it was only his second game. But I thought he acquitted himself fantastically."

Keates felt Walsall learned some valuable lessons from the Stoke game. Former Barcelona stars Bojan and Ibrahim Afellay netted from 25 yards in the opening five minutes to earn the Pottery a 3-0 win on Saturday.

Stoke were eager to impress in what was Gary Rowett's first public outing as manager. But Keates felt his side recovered well after their poor start.

"We got caught out early on - we had a slow start and they have scored with two 25-yard goals," he said. "Robbo (Liam Roberts) has held

his hands up and said he slipped on both. You can't control those kind of things. But we didn't get to grips with their rotation early on. We left too many gaps.

"But we grew into the game and had some decent moments going forward.

"Zeli (Ismail) broke forward a few times and showed glimpses of what he will be about this season. But we've got a few friendlies where we are going to spend time without the ball so it's about getting distances correct.

"It's also about concentration and learning when you break and breaking in numbers."

Walsall take on Dutch giants Ajax at the Banks's tonight (Thursday). Kick off is 7.45pm

Pelsall have answers in Village test

PELSALL came through their toughest test to keep their Lord's dream alive.

Dan Pennell's side emerged victorious from a keenly contested clash with Leicestershire outfit Newtown Linford in the National Village KO.

The victory has moved them to within two games of a day out at the home of cricket, with a quarter-final trip to Warwickshire side Fillongley next up.

On a day when it was hard toil for the bowlers, Pelsall posted a challenging 287-6 thanks to a number of impressive contributions.

Jake Lee led the way with 97 from 67 balls while Dan Vale added some late innings momentum by blasting off sixes and six fours in an unbeaten 53 from 25 balls. Opener Tom Boyd (42) and Alex Jones (34) added useful support.

But Pelsall then had to show plenty of character in the field especially after a strong start from their hosts.

Darren Bulpitt (102) and Dylan Chruch (50) moved them to 143-1 in response but Pelsall dug deep and removed the duo and skipper Craig Chapman for the addition of a further 54 runs.

Skipper Pennell then stepped up to the plate to pick up three key wickets, capping a fine day that also saw him claim a couple of catches and a run out.

Spinner Ryan Brown bowled well to pick up 2-45 as Newtown Linford ended 35 runs short on 252-8.

Pennell was full of praise for his side, in what was the toughest match of their journey so far.

Fisher eager to give Lockmen their pride

MATTHEW FISHER is on a mission to restore pride after stepping into the hot seat at Willenhall Town.

Fisher has been appointed manager following a season of turmoil that saw The Lockmen finish bottom of West Midlands League Division One and lose most of their players. A restructure of the non-league pyramid saw them avoid the drop to Division Two but Fisher knows there is plenty of work to do.

The manager has, nevertheless, set the ambitious target of a top 10 finish.

He said: "My aim will be to create a team that Willenhall - the club and town - will be proud of once again."

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